



## Gideon's Promise

*Morgana Phoenix , Airicka Phoenix*

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**Gideon's Promise** Morgana Phoenix , Airicka Phoenix

*alternate cover edition for ASIN B00TWOE57E*

His love will become her curse.

For centuries, Gideon has kept his secret, knowing that it could mean the life of the woman whose very heartbeat was his reason for living. But when Veil Creatures are slaughtered in their homes by those sworn to protect them, it may be up to him to save those he loves from a fate worse than death. What he doesn't expect is the betrayal and a choice that could leave his family devastated.

Valkyrie Devereaux believes only in the power of justice, loyalty and obeying the laws of her people. Love was something to be feared and she had been taught long ago that anything that could make you weak, needed to be eliminated. But when she is assigned to join the Casters of the north in hunting down the creatures killing the innocent, even she can't help the twang of longing for something that goes against everything she was raised to believe was wrong.

Like fire and gasoline, passions collide. Heat erupts as they fight against their desires and their very nature. But a fire like theirs can never be smothered. It can never be stopped. It can only burn to unimaginable heights, but what happens when it careens out of control and destroys everything around them? And who is waiting for that exact moment to destroy the brothers?

She will become his death.

## Gideon's Promise Details

Date : Published February 23rd 2015 (first published February 21st 2015)

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# **From Reader Review Gideon's Promise for online ebook**

## **Jenny Bynum Black Words-White Pages says**

Read my full review at <http://blackwords-whitepages1977.blog...>

I think I am in love with this Author's style of writing. I absolutely loved these characters. We got to learn a lot about Gideon and Valkyrie in this story. They were phenomenal characters with deep dark secrets and wishes and I loved how the author broke down the book into two parts. Part 1 was all about Gideon's POV and part 2 was about Valkyrie's POV. The struggle for these two was real and it felt real the more I read the story. I felt so sad about the struggles the characters went through. The story-line was strong and extremely addicting. I was constantly wanting to know what would happen next and see when my questions throughout the story would be answered. This author has a knack for holding back just enough of the truth to keep you guess, letting your mind wonder into your imagination and then finding out you were wrong all along. I highly recommend this read!!

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## **Nasreen says**

3.5 ratings!

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## **Violet Musonda Winchester says**

Review to come. :)

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## **Declarations of a Fangirl says**

5 STARS

Holy crap on a cracker, Batman! Once again Mizz Phoenix does not disappoint. Gideon's Promise is book 2 in The Sons of Judgement Series and just like book 1, Octavian's Undoing, I could NOT put Gideon's Promise down. I fell in love with Gideon in book 1. He was all fun with a healthy dose of badass mixed in. I was so excited to see that book 2 was going to be his book and was told from his point of view. It's always refreshing when the majority of the story is told from the male's point of view. Don't get me wrong, Valkyrie is a force to be reckoned with, but she is quite serious (with good reason and we'll get to that in a moment) and I'm not sure I would have enjoyed the story nearly as much if it had been told from her point of view.

This book me took me on a wild rollercoaster ride. It had me feeling a vibrant rainbow of emotions, and it ranged drastically from one chapter to the next. I was kept on the edge of my perverbial seat (and sometimes my literal seat!) through the entirety of the story. I would go from feeling totally angsty and "omg what is going to happen?!?!?" to having to pause because I was laughing so hard. And don't get me started on the swooning. Oh man was there a ton of swooning on my part. I love a good forbidden love story and Gideon

and Valkyrie's love was strictly forbidden and my heart ached for them.

Gideon is the total package. Hot, hilarious, badass, and chivalrous...but it's his sense of humor that will make you fall in love with him.

"What can I say," he hoisted his feet up on the table and leaned his chair back on two legs. "Women either want to spank me, or strip me naked. Sometimes at the same time."

"Flirting with a pretty girl is not a crime," Gideon argued. "Besides, he'd have to catch me first. I don't look it, but I'm spritely."

"Do you always sleep in your clothes?" Gideon spared Reggie a sidelong glance. "No, usually I sleep with my freak flag flying free and the breeze blowing up my ass. It's very liberating."

Magnus barked what could only be a laugh. "I didn't realize your left hand was considered sex." Gideon flipped him off. "I'm right handed, asshole. And her name is Danielle."

That last bit had me laughing so hard I snorted...in the middle of the gym while I was on the recumbent bike. Needless to say I got some look. It was worth it though. Anyway, not only is Gideon hilarious, he is also fiercely loyal and completely tortured over his forbidden love for Valkyrie.

"I feel it every day. I feel her. I have lived with this pain with my every waking hour. I have watched as I killed every ounce of love she had for me by pushing her away and I knew it was better than the hatred she would feel for me if I ever touched her." His hands curled into fists that trembled as hard as he was. "So don't tell me what needs to be done, Magnus. I have done enough."

Valkyrie is also a badass in her own right.

Her boots struck the pavement with a resounding crack and she unfurled from the crouch like a dark goddess. A blade glinted in each hand.

She is amazing and can defend herself amongst even the fiercest of warriors. She is hard, blunt, and loyal. But you get this vibe from her that she also wishes to be cherished and handled delicately behind closed doors.

She isn't a Caster like Gideon and his family. She comes from a family of Harvesters. Harvesters are the offspring of angels and demons. In her society, the women are the warriors and the men possess the domestic roles. To disobey her father is the ultimate disgrace and punishable by exile or death. There is no greater value than loyalty to family. And if there were ever a villain to hate, it would be her father, Arild Devereaux. I haven't hated a character with such fiery passion since Dolores Umbridge.

"I would have her beaten and then make her watch as I beheaded the boy and his entire family before I have her chopped into tiny bits."

"She will never be yours, boy," he hissed. "I will never allow it. I would rather see her dead and fed to the dogs before I let her leave these walls. And she will never leave her family. Not for you. She is my daughter, first and foremost, and you are nothing."

Do you see what I mean? \*hisssssssss\* So there you have the explanation behind their forbidden love. Valkyrie is Gideon's mate. He's a Selkie and when a Selkie meets their mate they feel this intense pull. It is almost impossible to resist it. Once he touches Valkyrie she will also feel it. She's already in love with him but once they have skin on skin contact she will too feel that pull and intense devotion that Gideon feels. He has been fighting that pull for over 300 years but to give into it would mean ultimate tragedy for Valkyrie. Harvesters don't have mates and women have no say in whom they are matched with.

"It would be considered a dishonor, like she doesn't trust her king to make a proper match for her, or not believing her own people are good enough for her. She would be considered a traitor," He paused. "She would be tortured and killed."

I'm not going to divulge anymore details. If you wanna know what happens in the story (and there is another plot that is going parallel with this one that I didn't even touch on because...well, spoilers lol) then you're going to have to pick up the book! Reading book 1, Octavian's Undoing, isn't mandatory but I would recommend it. It gives you a better indepth description of the Selkies and Casters. Trust me...read them both. They're both amazing and you're going to fall in love with all of the Maxwell brothers.

Oh, and one more thing if you're still on the fence. Gideon....\*swoon\*

"In my bedroom, in my bed, you will only call me Gideon. Say it."

"I can do that and so much more. Your body will respond to my every desire and love everything I do to it. No other man will ever touch what belongs to me."

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## **Maiké says**

Again, more people need to read these books

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## **Jamie says**

This review can also be found on: <http://bbf-book-boyfriends.blogspot.de/>

I was super excited to be reading Gideon's Promise, after I already fell in love with the whole family in the first Son of Judgment book. And this book didn't disappoint at all!! It was great in every way possible.

I love it when you realize early on in the book that the two people you wanna end up together basically hate each other. Their banter is one of the things that makes this book so amazing. It's funny, hilarious, and yet heart-breaking at times as well. Because once you read this book you will realize that things aren't always what they seem, and fighting verbally with someone sometimes is the only way to keep your sanity.

Gideon has loved Kyrie for over 300 years already, and yet he knows that once he gives in to those desires, everything is lost. So he does the only thing he can think of: push her away. Watching him do that, and seeing how it breaks his heart over and over and over again, just breaks your own heart right along with it. You so badly want them to be together, but you KNOW that things are impossible. Or so they seem at least. And yet Gideon goes against every instinct he has, every fiber in his body that tells him to actually go to her and tell her how much he loves her. Let's just say it definitely isn't easy to watch them together, unable to actually BE together.

Kyrie herself hasn't had an easy life either. With the way she was brought up, unable to even process the slightest emotion, you do feel sorry for her, and yet you cannot help and be proud of the woman she has become and what she made out of herself. Yes, her inability to actually feel love is heartbreaking, and yet she hasn't given up yet. There is always that small part of her, that part that belongs to Gideon, that wishes it knew just what loving a person would really mean. But there are customs she can't ignore, when death would be waiting on the other side.

Together, the two of them are a combustible team, one where you always have to wonder what happens next, who blows up next or who will give in first! It's never clear what is gonna happen, because both are so unpredictable that you can never guess if they are gonna kill or kiss each other.

Besides those two, we get the whole family together again, and I have always loved the family dynamics, the fact that there is nothing anyone in this family wouldn't do for one another. It's beautiful, because with so many stories out there with dysfunctional families, it's great to see one where loyalty trumps all. And boy I cannot wait for Magnus' story to come to life.

Airicka Phoenix' writing has a way to draw you into the story and makes it hard for you to let go. All throughout the book (and it was a long one) I wanted to get to the end, and yet not, because while I would know what happens, I would also have nothing left to read. And that just plain sucks, simply as that. So Airicka, please do me a favor and get the next book out ASAP!!!!

This is a great read that I would recommend to everyone!! Please read it, you won't be disappointed!!! 5 definite book boyfriends!!

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## **Bawaka's Book Fair says**

**\*Beta Read\***

What can I say? This is a book had in a complete book hangover!

This book was well worth the wait for it's arrival! Gideon has won my heart. The way he lived his life so his true mate live in a life that wasn't her decision. We all know she's a hard ass.

There was so much insight to a few of the characters. Valkyrie has made it to one of my favorites. Her past,

the horrific things her father made her go through. Gideon that always wanted to protect her from all she's ever known. I truly wanted to jump in and give the girl a hug. If I wasn't afraid that she'd pull out her dagger and kill me for doing so.

There is a new character in here as well. Imogen. She came upon them per request of her father in her most dire drastic time. Torn apart from her loved ones, she had no choice but follow his request.

So much is brought to light in Gideon's Promise. Trust me, we have all been waiting for this one's arrival. It definitely does not disappoint. I firmly believe that anything this woman touches turns to gold.

Loved Gideon's Promise, I would recommend to all of those that love to spend the entire book biting their nails, losing hair, and having a moment to fan themselves from the steam arising out of the pages.

\*Review by Jaime R. of Bawaka's Book Fair

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### **Amber says**

Airicka Phoenix is def one of my favorite authors, and jumping back into the Son's of Judgement Series was phenomenal. There was so much action, drama, suspense. Every turn of the page had you wanting more, trying to figure out what's to come next. Valkyrie is very stubborn, head strong and set in her ways but we get to see another side of not only her but Gideon as well in Gideon's Promise. I loved the back and forth banter between these two. Gideon is hilarious and has you laughing so much, that is until it's not a laughing matter. I can't wait to get my hands on Magnus' Defeat and see where things are going next. You can't help but to get attached to the characters in this series, even the smaller characters, they each play a role and you get so swept up into their stories you can't help but to want more.

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### **Joelle ★My Book Angel Blog★ says**

\*\*\*ARC provided for honest review\*\*\*

Gideon's Promise By Airicka Phoenix was well worth the wait. This book blew me away. I had a few all nighters clutching my Kindle, my eyes glued to the pages, forever saying "just one more chapter." However, this book is one you'll find yourself not being able to put down.

I adored Gideon in Octavian's Undoing. He was sarcastic, brash, and at times immature, but he kept me laughing. I thought Octavian was swoon worthy but I believe Gideon has taken his brother's place in that category.

The same characters are Back in this book. We do meet a new one, Imogene. She was told by her father to go to Final Judgment for help. She's around 18 years old and a veil creature. Imogene is a sweet, quiet, and kind soul. I can't go much further without spoilers.

We also learn more about the North(Final Judgment's quadrant), East, South, and West; how the treaty came into effect, and what each area is known for. For example, Casters, Harvesters, etc...There's a lot of background in Gideon's life told throughout the story which is very interesting. Reading about the first time Gideon see's and meets Valkyrie, realizing who she is, and the many lengths he'll go through to protect her.

Valkyrie is a true force to be reckoned with. She's a warrior, tough, and doesn't take any crap from anyone. The dialogue between her and Gideon is hilarious. Gideon will say and do anything to get under her skin. Yet, there's a soft side to him that we see in this book—a sweet, beautiful side, that is uncovered the more we get to know his character.

This book is packed with action, tons of twists and turns, and a lot of surprises. Ms. Phoenix didn't disappoint on the steam factor either!

I would definitely recommend Gideon's Promise to anyone who has read the 1st book. Airicka Phoenix did a phenomenal job writing this novel. I look forward to the 3rd book in the series, which is about Maxwell.

Gideon's Promise will be out on February 23, 2015

It will be available for purchase at:

Amazon: <http://goo.gl/gnWOAJ>

Barns & Nobles:

<http://goo.gl/ac2F5U>

iBooks

<http://goo.gl/p7VKRM>

Smashwords:

<http://goo.gl/jtEGJk>

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## **Karla says**

I absolutely loved this book! I forgot how much I had loved the characters in the first book, Octavian's Undoing, and so getting the chance to come back into this world and characters made me love the series/saga even more.

I liked how this time around it was in Gideon and Valkyrie's POV, because I liked it when they fought each other all the time and acted like they hated each other but in actuality it was obvious how much they wanted each other. Not only was the romance, hot and sweet at the same time, man those sexy scenes of theirs really made me melt for this stupid couple, but it was nice to see how the imprint made them bond and grow together, not just for themselves, but as a family as a whole. Valkyrie didn't really have a normal upbringing and she was raised to be a stone cold warrior bitch and so the thought of a warm loving family like the Maxwells both terrified and confused her, especially with her thinking that they didn't really care for her. But in the end, I think it was nice to see how Valkyrie went through so much and after the 300+ years that she had met Gideon, she finally has a place to truly call her home and a warm loving family that would do anything to protect each other.

But not only was there lots of romance in this book, there was also a lot of conflict and mystery and suspense. With the attacks going on and all the clues pointing to a particular Caster family, the Maxwells, it literally had me turning the pages to figure out what was going to happen next and who was the culprit in charge of all the murders and attacks. But alas, just when it was getting good and it seemed like they were on a lead, shit had to go down and Gideon and Valkyrie's romance had to take the main stage for the last remainder of the book. Of course I was disappointed in the fact that the whole plot was overshadowed by their need to show their love for each other and all the problems they faced that they completely ignored the problems of the killer and such. It irked me a little that some characters were introduced, like Kyros and Reginald, and then they were cast away like the author decided to write them in as an afterthought. They didn't even really add much to the story, only to give more problems and okay, a solution to when Valkyrie



almost died near the end of the book.

All in all, I loved this book, it had me laughing out loud at the funny parts, I loved reading about how breezy and normal and funny the brothers were to each other and Riley. The action scenes were great, it had me being there in the moment, and then the flashback scenes when Gideon remembered his past with Valkyrie was also a nice touch.

I really can't wait to read the next book Magnus' Defeat now! As many times as Magnus claimed that he didn't want to find his mate, or that he didn't want to start a family or need to find love, I really can't wait for him to be hit with that overwhelming need and desire for his mate, and figure out what kind of girl is his perfect mate, and have it be a "ha, in your face!" moment. Here's hoping it comes out real soon!

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### **Kimberly Schaaf says**

I have been waiting so long for this book. Octavian's Undoing was a work of art on its own. And though I fell head over heels for the eldest Maxwell brother, Ms. Phoenix laid the groundwork for what I knew would be an amazing story for Gideon. Snarky, sexy, with just a glimmer of something more...I couldn't wait for Gideon's turn.

This has to be the most flawlessly written story that Morgana has put out thus far. I felt like I was watching a movie as I was reading the pages of this book. The imagery that we have all come to know and love from her stories was definitely there, but there was something different about this story.

Complicated and intense in every sense of the word, Gideon Maxwell has it all. Charm, looks, humor, sexiness, and a heart of gold...even for someone that hunts demons for a living. The beautiful love story that haunts him from his mate is one to leave you feeling broken and beaten. Oh, but don't worry - I have never known Ms. Phoenix to leave us heartbroken in the end.

Valkyrie Devereaux was introduced to us in Octavian's Undoing as well. A Harvester Warrior, calculating and manipulative...with something hiding underneath for our oh so scrumptious man in leather (....yes, I'm talking about Gideon). Morgana places Valkyrie into a compromising position when attacks on veiled creatures start....one that forces her to face possibly her one true downfall....yes, again, Gideon Maxwell.

I honestly can't give too much more away in this story, but let me say it's one that you want to start and finish all in one breath. But at the same time, I wasn't ready for this absolutely amazing story to end. Just enough heat to keep you awake, and a plot line and story that keeps you guessing until the end. And of course, Morgana, in all of her evil awesomeness leaves us wanting more.

Magnus's Defeat (Book #3) will not reach the shelves quick enough for me. I need to know what happens...and you will, too.

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### **A little birdie told me... says**

So... this one brought more heat, but not much else. It was long and drawn out: a string of misadventures tucked between a lot of just sitting around contemplating the same boring stuff. All that might have been

okay if there had been a conclusion.

Sadly, there wasn't. The end was abrupt, too abrupt to even be called a cliffy. The epilogue set up the possibly predictable next novel in the series, Magnus' story.

Valkyrie wasn't as likable as Riley was in the first book. She just wasn't worthy of lovable Gideon, who I'd love to meet in real life. But I felt that way about Riley, too. Octavian wasn't good enough for her, either, but that was probably because I was too busy crushing on Gideon.

I'll probably read the next book, but I'm glad I have to wait. I need a break from all things Selkie love for a while.

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## **Melanie says**

5\*s

Review posted here...

<http://bookpassionforlife.blogspot.co...>

Gideon's Promise is the second book in the 'Sons of Judgement' series and this time around (as the title would suggest) it's Gideon Maxwell's turn to find his soul mate..... the thing is – he found her 300 yrs ago and kept it to himself! Gideon could be classed as many things, cocky, arrogant, funny, HOT..... need I say more? But one of those things I never saw him as was a self-sacrificing, protector of hearts. Gideon made quite the impact in book one with his wit and charm, he came across as a ladies man who would never be tied down – little did we know the secret he was keeping. It was also clear in book one that there was a little something, something going on in the chemistry department between him and Valkyrie Devereaux, you could tell they were mutually attracted but in a hate to love kind of way, they infuriate each other both on purpose and unintentionally and now we know why. I loved the banter between them in book one and it definitely carried over onto book two well, I'm also a sucker for hate to love relationships too so I was hooked straight away because it was clear these two were meant for each other. The reason he keeps it secret is because of who Valkyrie is and the laws and customs of her people, knowing that she could be put to death if they became an item and knowing that if he didn't touch or claim her then she would never know of her soul mate status and be able to live her life as expected.

He always keeps her at arms length but when veil creatures are being wiped out in their own homes, Valkyrie is sent to investigate and join forces with the Maxwells and that leaves Gideon with a dilemma because the more time he spends around her, the more he wants to touch her, bond with her and the living arrangements put temptation firmly on his doorstep. Valkyrie, unaware of Gideon's feelings doesn't understand why he is so standoffish with her, he always seems to hate her and she doesn't know why, but she'll give as much as she gets. Her world is much different to Gideons, her life is about survival, being the best, never failing or showing weakness and above all – obeying the laws and customs of her people. She is not allowed to fall in love, she will be given a mate when the time comes and she will do her duty by bearing children to become the next generation of warriors.

As they investigate the slayings, they are forced to enter hostile territory in the hopes of gaining information but what happens is something different, they are betrayed in the worst way possible and the consequences are dire. I could never have imagined the way the story would turn here, yes I was expecting something but wow, what a shocker and it really opened my eyes up to the perpetrator. When Gideon tried to take the blame, it broke my heart because of what he was trying to do and why, it is a big game changer in the story but also a good thing for the progression of the relationship. With the event and the fall out, I thought it brought a softer side out in Valkyrie, she seemed less rigid and willing to see another way but those law

abiding tendencies still remain.

As the story keeps on going we have multiple attempts on everyone's lives that inject a lot of action into the plot, we still have murderers on the loose and there's a real sense of dread upon all at the house. Something is brewing, something bad and this is the basis for what is to come. All of the way through the book, it's hard to see a way for Gideon and Valkyrie to get their HEA, you really want it for them but there are so many obstacles in the way plus there is a truly tragic event that astounded me – in fact this book is filled with OMG moments that really make you feel like no one is safe. I enjoyed finding out about the other keepers of the gates, each are different and have a different way of doing their jobs but it's Valkyries I was most interested in and that we got the most information about. Her story is really sad, her life is sad and it was tough to read of her treatment by those meant to love and protect her. The fact that she was not free to love who she chose isn't even the worst of it so I was so glad she had the Maxells to lean on. There is a lot going on in the story that doesn't become apparent until the ending, I didn't feel like the book had a solid conclusion – more of a small cliffhanger ending but it does what its meant to.... Leaves you wanting more.

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### **Roxanne Kade says**

This book revived my love for the PNR genre. It was riveting and I was instantly sucked into this fantastic story of love, honor, loyalty and sacrifice. Immersed in the spellbinding world that Phoenix has created, I didn't want it to end, and with an ending that held so much heartache but so much promise I cannot wait for the next installment in this exciting series.

Phoenix's characters are kickass and so freaking lovable, even the those in leather with daggers strapped to them. I absolutely love the name Valkyrie. I've always been fascinated by the myth, but I never imagined anyone with that name - it is stunning and was so perfect for this strong female warrior. There was so much sexual tension between Val (Yeah! She'd probably kick my ass for calling her that) and Gid, and my heart was in my throat every time they were near each other. The anticipation of their first touch drove me crazy, and Phoenix set the pages ablaze with the teasing and torturous pleasure that these two shared even though they were never able to take in any further. When things finally spilled over and it felt like the ultimate betrayal and devastation for one character, I was in tears; my heart breaking for all concerned.

I loved the many subplots within this story, as well as the many twists and turns. I was thrilled to go along for the ride as the characters battled an unknown evil, while having many other curveballs thrown their way. They proved that a strong family can get through anything, and although their story is far from over I have every confidence in their success.

This book was an absolute delight to read. It was at times shocking, heartrending and soul-crushing, but at others it was light, and fun - with hilarious quips for certain characters, and a sarcasm that only people who are close and love each other dearly can share. By the end of the book I felt like I belonged at Final Judgment and I never wanted to leave.

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### **Ms. Ali Cat says**

## Meet the Boys of Judgment!

I am more than willing to admit that I am a big effing fangirl when it comes to Airicka Phoenix books. I love them like sharks love chum and I act a little frenzied when I get a taste too. When I read Octavian's Undoing I was in a hotel in Anaheim, CA while my husband was enjoying Blizz-con. I was so gone on Octavian that he gave me a sore back. Well only because the electric socket in the room was faulty and I had to perch awkward-like on the chair to keep my e-reader plugged in. I forgive him for my discomfort and pain. Riley was the better woman between the pair of us, my sore body and yearning heart understood his choice. Where is this rambling going?... I couldn't wait for the next book and I no longer have to wish on falling stars. Gideon's story is to come soon! Airicka has revealed the cover of his book and announced that he will be arriving to tell me his story in September. Fear not, there are still a couple more Maxwells.

Read More: [Book It - In News Today: Gideon Reveals His Mmmm Mmmm Cover](#)

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