



## News Release

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**Local author, Ottawa Citizen memoir contest prize winner, Anne Shmelzer,** pleased to announce the publication of *EREV—The Evening Years of Reuben Gurewitz*, a second work of fiction since *A Marginally Noted Man*.

In *EREV*, Reuben Gurewitz, a retired Ottawa physician, continues to grieve the death of his wife Ruthie as a result of a tragic accident five years ago. He resolves that he must restrain his constant ruminations and accept her death. He feels the need to get away and decides to re-visit Belleville, the central Ontario city where he was born and bred. There, Reuben finds his once-vibrant Jewish community in decline. The synagogue of his youth is now only able to open for a few of the Holiday services. Fraught with gloom, he suddenly remembers Laura, his cherished friend of early years. He searches, finds her, and they unite in a twilight-years romance full of promise.

The protagonists in *EREV* and *A Marginally Noted Man* seek a place of comfort from the catastrophic events in their recent past, galvanized by their resilience and empowered by hope.

1986 Nobel Peace Prize winner, Elie Wiesel, a survivor of Auschwitz, opened his acceptance lecture by recounting a Hasidic legend about The Baal Shem Tov. Wiesel loved the story because “it emphasizes the mystical power of memory. Without memory, our existence would be barren and opaque . . . and if anything can, it is memory that will save humanity . . . For me, hope without memory is like memory without hope.”

Both books are now available for purchase of a print edition either through Amazon or my publisher’s website [www.railwaycreekbooks.ca](http://www.railwaycreekbooks.ca). If you have a Reader, you can download either book on Kindle, Kobo or Apple iBooks, also through my website.

Kind regards,  
Anne