



## 2023 - 2024 Red Cedar Book Award Winners



[Vancouver, BC, June 3, 2024] - The Red Cedar Book Award proudly announces the 2023 - 2024 winners: *My Left Skate: The Extraordinary Story of Eliezer Sherbatov* by Anna Rosner, published by Great Plains Press in the Non-Fiction category and in the Fiction category, *Apartment 713* by Kevin Sylvester, published by Harper Collins Canada.

This year, the Red Cedar Book Award received many great book submissions from publishers across Canada and had nearly a thousand young readers from British Columbia (Alberta too!) participating in the voting process. These young readers selected their favorite books from among the contenders, giving this prestigious honor to the winning titles. Congratulations to the authors and publishers of the winning books!

*My Left Skate: The Extraordinary Story of Eliezer Sherbatov* is a first-person biography of a talented teenager whose hockey career seemed over after a severe accident left him with no feeling below his left knee. After years of rehabilitation, Eliezer returned to become one of Quebec's top junior players. Undrafted at nineteen, he pursued a professional career in Europe, playing in France, Kazakhstan, Slovakia, and near Auschwitz in Poland. The book concludes with his life in Ukraine and his escape from war following Russia's invasion.

In *Apartment 713*, Jake Simmons despises his new home, the dilapidated Regency. Lonely and longing for his old life, he follows kittens to an elderly lady's apartment and starts working part-time with Danny the custodian. Discovering the building's secrets and growing attached to its residents, Jake learns the city plans to demolish the Regency. Feeling powerless, he is summoned to the mysterious apartment 713, where he travels to the past. With his new friend Beth, Jake searches for clues to save the Regency, finding that the building's history holds the key to his own future.



The Red Cedar Book Award (The Award), brought to you by British Columbia's Young Readers' Choice Awards Society (YRCABC), aims to encourage students in grades 4-7 to read more, to create an awareness of Canadian books and authors, and to develop a reader's ability to judge published works. The Award adheres to two core principles - being child-centered and promoting Canadian books written for kids. The Award also value sand supports Intellectual Freedom, Literacy, Diversity, Inclusiveness, Integrity, Community, and Sustainability.

Since its inception in 1996, YRCABC has provided a learning platform for kids, families, and educators across British Columbia to discover, connect with, and be inspired by Canadian literature for children. For over nearly three decades, YRCABC has fostered an engaged, excited, and educated province-wide Red Cedar Book Award community. We welcome the participation of children, teachers, and families in the Red Cedar Book Award. Let us celebrate Canadian children's authors, books, and publishers, as we believe that reading is both fun and empowering.

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