

THE ALCUIN SOCIETY'S AWARDS
FOR EXCELLENCE IN CANADIAN BOOK DESIGN
FOR THE YEAR 1993 (1992?)

Ronald Hagler

For this, the Society's eleventh annual presentation of design awards, the undersigned judges spent much of April 17, 1993 examining and discussing the visual merits and deficiencies of 244 books submitted by their publishers and/or designers. This is a few more books than were submitted last year. Some books of great design merit published in Canada are not, for one or another reason, submitted to this competition, but we celebrate those listed and described below as evidence of the notable standard of excellence. Many of them would be equally remarkable when compared with examples of the very best produced anywhere. The categories, as most recently revised by the Society's Design Awards Committee in 1989, are: General Trade Books: Prose (includes Fiction and Nonfiction) General Trade Books: Adult Picture and Photography Books: General Trade Books: How-To-, Cook-, Craft- and Hobby Books General Trade Books: Poetry Text and Reference Books Limited Editions (numbered and/or signed) Juvenile Books other than Textbooks.

The person submitting is invited to check one of these categories on the entry form accompanying each book but a book is occasionally assigned to a more appropriate category by either the Society's Committee or the judges. First, second, and third prizes are available in each category, with ties permitted. Honourable mention is awarded to a book exceptionally noteworthy in some feature(s) but not as a whole of prize-winning standard. Judging is based on the suitability and harmony (both in the text block and for the binding/covering/wrapper) of type, illustration (if any), layout, and materials used; all in relation to the book's subject matter, intended audience, etc.

General Trade Books: Prose (includes Fiction and Nonfiction)

1st Prize: *Good Bones* [by] Margaret Atwood. Toronto: Coach House Press. ISBN 0-88910-442-5. [Designer: Stephanie Power (Reactor); Printer: Best Gagne]

2nd Prize: *Chinese Canadians: Voices from a Community* [by] Evelyn Huang with Lawrence Jeffery. Vancouver: Douglas &