



# PRESS RELEASE

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## LIZ CURTIS HIGGS HONORED WITH HER FIRST CHRISTY AWARD

Author's novel recognized for excellence in historical fiction

**Colorado Springs, CO** – In an awards dinner held Saturday evening, July 8, 2006, at the Denver Marriott City Center, bestselling nonfiction and fiction author **Liz Curtis Higgs** was named the 2006 Christy Award winner in the Historical category for her novel *Whence Came a Prince* (published by **WaterBrook Press, a division of Random House, Inc., in March 2005**).

*Whence Came a Prince* is the final installment in the trilogy of historical novels that began with *Thorn in My Heart* and *Fair Is the Rose*. The books parallel biblical stories of characters from Genesis, reset in 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-century Scotland.

“Every book is a labor of love, but *Whence Came a Prince* was especially so, knowing my readers were waiting none-too-patiently for the final installment,” said Higgs. “The longest novel of the trilogy, *Prince* required the most research, and from an emotional standpoint, was the hardest to write... Yet those projects which are the hardest to produce often bear the most fruit.”

“Liz is a most-talented writer,” said Steve Cobb, President of WaterBrook Press. “Her nonfiction and fiction work has for many years been recognized as some of the best in the industry. We are so grateful for this well-deserved recognition for Liz, and we are continually honored to have her as part of the WaterBrook family.”

The Christys, named after the classic novel of the same name by the late Catherine Marshall, honors the best of fiction in the Christian publishing industry. Higgs's novel was selected from among 146 novels submitted by 26 publishers in six categories (first novel, general, historical, romance, suspense, and visionary). Judged by a panel of literary critics, librarians, reviewers, and academicians, works are evaluated on a ten-point criteria with the top three scoring works in each category named as finalists. Since the awards were instituted in 1999, this is WaterBrook's fifth Christy.

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