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For Immediate Release

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***Wisdom for the Soul* Garners National Book Award**

Six years of dedication and determination that it took Larry Chang to compile and self-publish the anthology of quotations, *Wisdom for the Soul: Five Millennia of Prescriptions for Spiritual Healing* have been recognized with its selection by USABookNews.com as Winner in the Non-Fiction Anthologies category of the Best Books 2006 Awards. Comprised of 11,600 quotations from sources as diverse as Akhenaton to RuPaul and organized chronologically in 220 psycho-spiritual categories, the volume is designated the Owner's Manual for the Self offering descriptions of and prescriptions for thinking-feeling states.

The concept for *Wisdom* had its genesis in Kingston, Jamaica where Chang prepared for the Religious Science Ministry under the tutelage of the Rev. Dr. Elma Lumsden. He came to use quotations extensively in his pastoral counseling and sermonizing, relying on their concise elegance to get his points across. In 2000, he applied for political asylum in the US, as an out LGBT activist fleeing state-complicit homophobic violence. Unable to work in the US until Work Authorization, and eventually his asylum petition, were granted, he filled his time compiling, organizing and collating the hundreds of quotes he had accumulated into one Word file. The resulting double-spaced 3500-page manuscript attracted interest from publishers, who insisted that he reduce it to a third of its volume. Though anxious to have it published, Chang politely declined. "There's no way I can fairly represent the wisdom of five millennia in 270 pages." He went the route of self-publishing and has not looked back.

The book attracted critical acclaim at BEA 2006 with enthusiastic support from authors Gary Zukav, Thomas Moore, Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen, Malidoma Some and Lama Surya Das. It is "very strongly recommended" by *Midwest Book Review* and described as "A must-have title for all spiritual seekers" by USABookNews.com.

Wisdom for the Soul: Five Millennia of Prescriptions for Spiritual Healing, First edition, hard cover, 7 x 10, 824 pages, ISBN 0-9773391-0-6, \$49.95. Available online at <http://www.wisdomforthesoul.org> along with quotation card sets, and to the trade from Baker & Taylor, Ingram, New Leaf Distributors and Quality Books.

Larry Chang, Author and Publisher, is available nationwide for television, radio, and press interviews, and for personal appearances to conduct readings, seminars and workshops. Call 202 545 0869 or write ventures@wisdomforthesoul.org for availability.

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