

**Lee Hough Named “Super Agent of Year” by Thomas Nelson  
2007 ICRS Convention, Atlanta**

In the process of publishing a book, the Author – and even sometimes the Publishing House – receives recognition. But there’s a third member of the team who often goes unnoticed with little public recognition. This person is the Agent. The person who often discovered the author before anyone else and then worked tirelessly to polish the proposal and find just the right publishing partner.

At Thomas Nelson Fiction, our goal is to reach the broadest possible audience with the best possible stories – always told from a Christian worldview. To accomplish that, we look to Agents who help us find just the right storytellers. Without them, our task becomes much harder and certainly less enjoyable.

So at this time, we recognize the incredible role of the Agent by holding up who we think represents the best in what an Agent offers. To that end, we introduce the Super Agent of the Year award – which will be handed out at each annual Thomas Nelson Fiction Dinner going forward.

In the past year, I know of no agent who better captures the essence of a Super Agent than Lee Hough at Alive Communications. He has a true passion to find just the right publishing partner for his Authors, he negotiates from a spirit of integrity, and he invests himself fully into the process – always representing the Author first and yet always doing his best to create a win for the Publisher as well. Perhaps that’s why we have more Authors represented by Lee than any other Agent.

And Lee always remains a key ingredient in the publishing process for each Author long after the deal has been signed. He’s actively involved in titling, content concepting, branding, packaging, marketing, and more. His goal is always to create the best partnership and the best project – and he does so with grace, transparency, and humor. I’ve never once seen him lose his patience or temper...even in the most trying of circumstances. He is a true delight and the type of person who actually makes me want to be a better publisher – and a better man – just for being around him. He truly raises the bar on what it means to be an Agent simply by doing what comes so natural to him every day.

Congratulations, Lee, on being the Thomas Nelson Fiction Super Agent of 2007. And thank you for also being such a good friend and a fellow traveler in this journey to create the best novels the world has ever seen. It’s an honor to work by your side day in and out on this mission God has called us on!