

AMANDA LAPERA

Award-Winning Author |
Speaker | Mental Health
Advocate



ABOUT AMANDA

Amanda LaPera is an award-winning author and speaker whose work explores mental illness, resilience, and family systems through lived experience. She is the author of *Losing Dad*, *Paranoid Schizophrenia*, winner of the IBPA Benjamin Franklin Silver Award in Psychology, and its sequel *Finding Dad*. Her work is recognized for its emotional honesty, depth, and impact on mental health awareness.

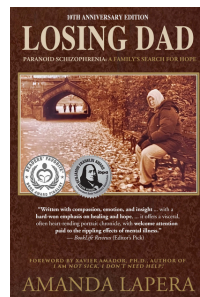
PRAISE FOR AMANDA'S WORK

"A uniquely powerful, deeply personal chronicle that will resonate with readers."

"Written with compassion, emotion, and insight."

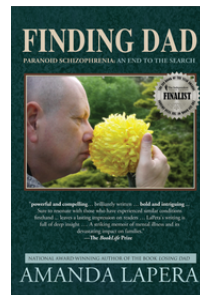


BOOKS



Losing Dad

PSYCHOLOGY MEMOIR:
Losing Dad, Paranoid Schizophrenia: A Family's Search for Hope (Award-winning)



Finding Dad

PSYCHOLOGY MEMOIR:
Finding Dad, Paranoid Schizophrenia: An End to the Search (Award-winning)



Desert of Dreams Series

- Sway with the Wind (prequel)
- Dare to Dream (1)
- Reach for Hope (2)
- Embrace the Truth (3)
- Coming-of-age fiction exploring identity, trauma, and resilience.

CREDIBILITY & RECOGNITION

- IBPA Benjamin Franklin Silver Award (Psychology)
- BookLife Editor's Pick
- BookLife Prize Quarter Finalist
- Readers' Favorite Award Finalist
- IAN Book of the Year Award Finalist
- LQHS Teacher of the Year (2 times)
- Honored by Mental Health Assoc. of OC
- Former Board Member, NAMI-OC (10 years)

SIGNATURE SPEAKING TOPICS

- TURNING PAIN INTO PURPOSE: Lessons from lived experience
- MENTAL ILLNESS & FAMILY IMPACT: What needs to change
- RESILIENCE IN UNCERTAINTY: Navigating systems and stigma
- STORYTELLING AS HEALING: Power of sharing your story
- OVERCOMING ADVERSITY: Reclaiming identity

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