

# AMANDA LAPERA

Award-Winning Author |  
Speaker | Mental Health  
Advocate



## ABOUT AMANDA LAPERA

Amanda LaPera is an award-winning author whose work brings a deeply personal perspective to mental illness, resilience, and the lived experience of families navigating the system to get help for their loved one.

Her memoir *Losing Dad, Paranoid Schizophrenia: A Family's Search for Hope* documents her family's experience with late-onset schizophrenia and the emotional, systemic, and relational challenges that followed. The book received the IBPA Benjamin Franklin Silver Award in Psychology for its insight and impact.

Her sequel, *Finding Dad, Paranoid Schizophrenia: An End to the Search* continues the story through a decade-long search for her missing father, exploring themes of hope, persistence, and emotional survival.

In addition to nonfiction, Amanda is the author of the *Desert of Dreams* fiction coming-of-age series, which explores identity, and the role that connection, hope, and resilience play in overcoming trauma.

Her work bridges storytelling and advocacy, helping audiences better understand mental illness through human experience rather than statistics.

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