



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Book release July 15, 2025
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CRAZIEST CAJUN FOOTBALL TALE

Football. Middle school. A team against all odds.

**New funny middle grade by Gary Alipio,
illustrated by teen daughter Melina Alipio
available July 15, 2025.**

Twelve year-old Hatcher has big football dreams. He's going to be a play-calling star. A legend. So, he joins a city youth team with hopes of designing plays to win a championship. But when his inability to read plays correctly gets him cut to the B-team—a group of misfits—his dream of winning turns to surviving a season of Cajun craziness.

Enter cousin Heatha, who, forced to live with them, discovers Hatcher's real obstacle—*he has dyslexia*. How can latch-key Hatcher and Heatha work together to defy the odds?

Early Reviews:

"This is a genuine coming of age story steeped in the best traditions of football, life's lessons and family love. We can all see some aspects of our own lives as we follow young Hatcher navigate his dreams and adventures. A true touchdown!"

-- Mark Romig, *Stadium Play by Play Announcer - The New Orleans Saints*

About: A New Orleans native and LSU graduate, **Gary Alipio** wears a lot of hats: he's a children's book author, digital marketer, photographer, SCBWI regional advisor, a fishing aquatic instructor, and a high school bass fishing coach. As the second book in a series to *Craziest Fishing Tale on the Bayou*, this is Gary and his daughter's first book together. You can find his other crazy tales at garyalipio.com

A student at Benjamin Franklin High School and the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts, this is **Melina Alipio's** debut illustrated children's book. Follow her on Instagram :: @melinaa_artz

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