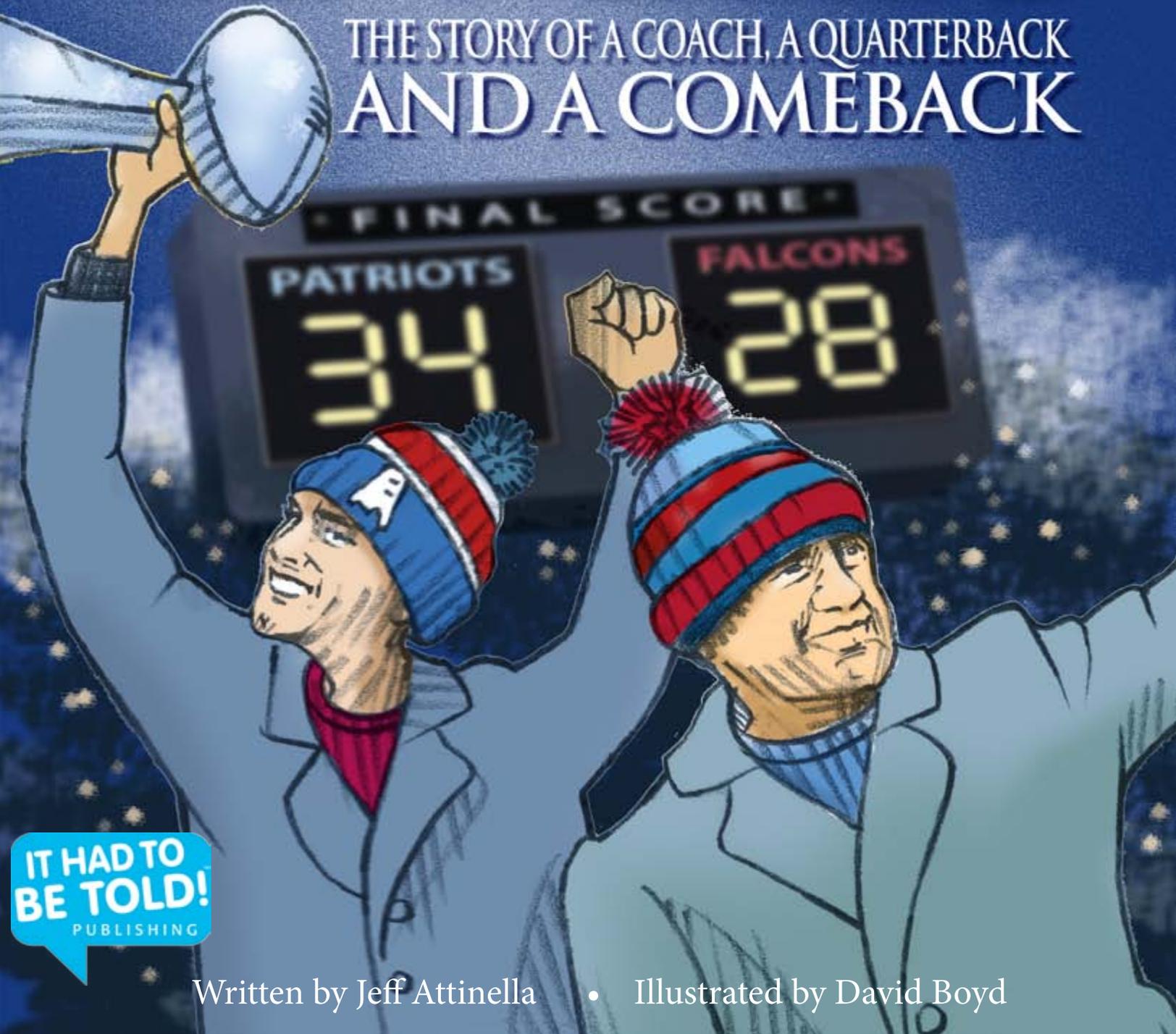


# GREATEST EVER

THE STORY OF A COACH, A QUARTERBACK  
AND A COMEBACK



IT HAD TO  
BE TOLD!  
PUBLISHING

Written by Jeff Attinella • Illustrated by David Boyd

**IT HAD TO  
BE TOLD!**<sup>TM</sup>  
PUBLISHING

I want to tell you a story...  
*ONE THAT I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE!*<sup>TM</sup>

**IT HAD TO  
BE TOLD!**<sup>TM</sup>  
PUBLISHING

I want to tell you a story...  
*ONE THAT I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE!*<sup>TM</sup>

For Remy Rose



A sincere “thank you” to my father-in-law, Wayne Curtiss, who heard my idea while half asleep on the couch one night and has been “all in” ever since. For without his perseverance, effort and sincere passion, these books would not exist.



Special thanks to our wildly talented friend, Don Brown, for his magic with colorization and book design.



IHTBT Publishing would like to thank Scott Fleenor for our logo creation and for lending his creative talents throughout this process.

---

Copyright © 2017 by It Had To Be Told Publishing, LLC.

“I want to tell you a story, one that I still can’t believe” and “It Had To Be Told” are trademarks of It Had To Be Told Publishing, LLC. All other trademarks belong to their respective owners.

All rights reserved. This book or any portion thereof may not be reproduced or used in any manner whatsoever without the express written permission of the publisher except for the use of brief quotations in a book review.

ISBN 978-0-9989440-1-2

It Had To Be Told Publishing  
Tampa, Florida

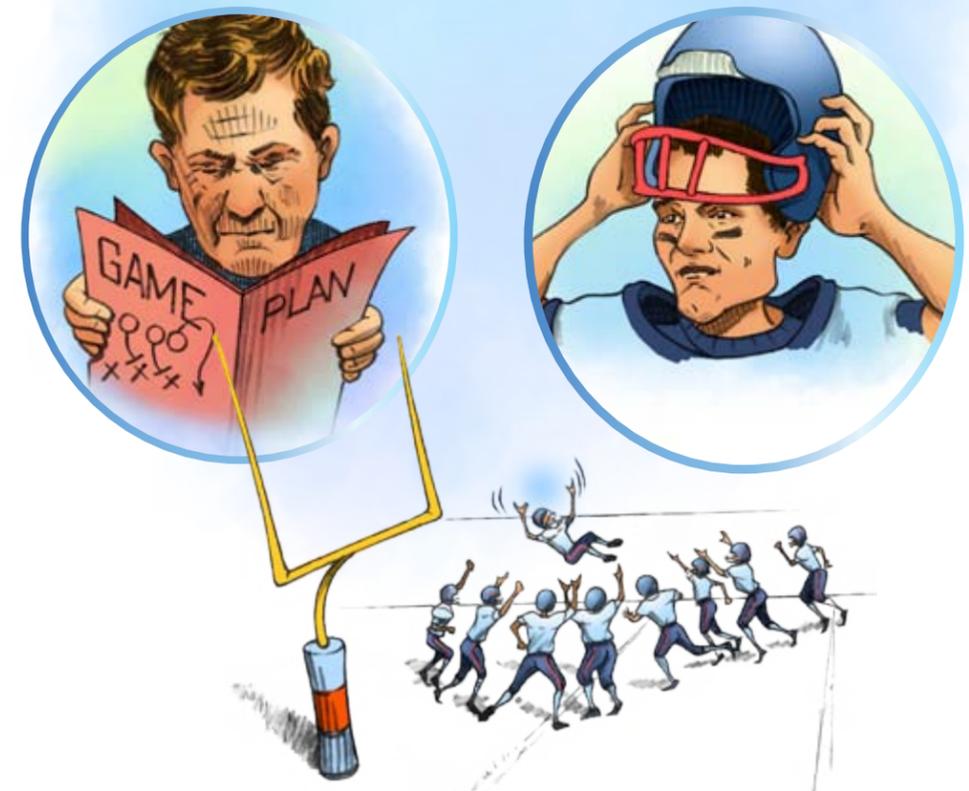
This book has been proudly produced and printed  
in the United States of America.

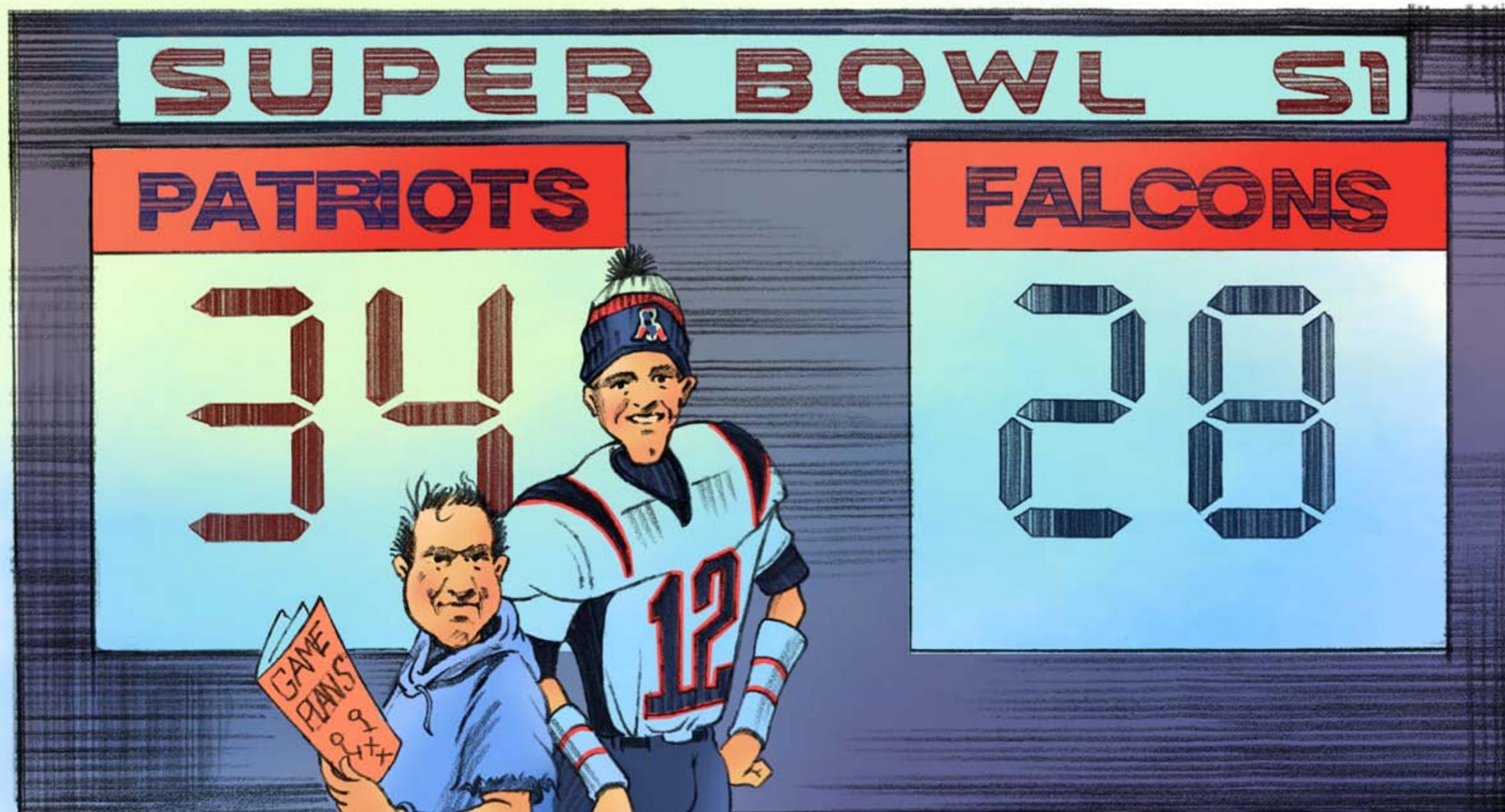


# GREATEST EVER

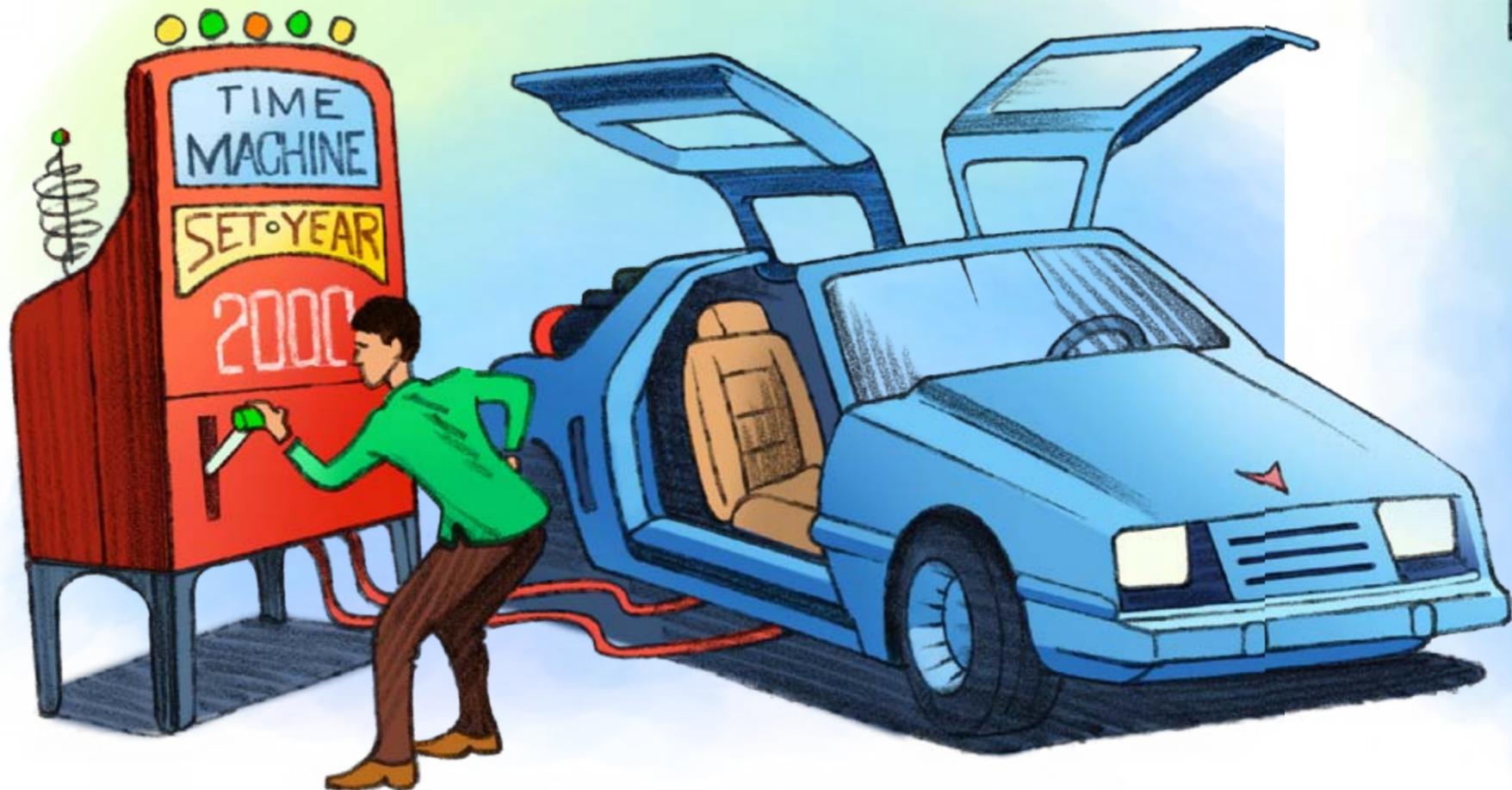
THE STORY OF A COACH, A QUARTERBACK  
AND A COMEBACK

WRITTEN BY JEFF ATTINELLA • ILLUSTRATED BY DAVID BOYD





**I** want to tell you a story,  
one that I still can't believe.  
The story of a coach, a quarterback  
and the greatest comeback ever seen!

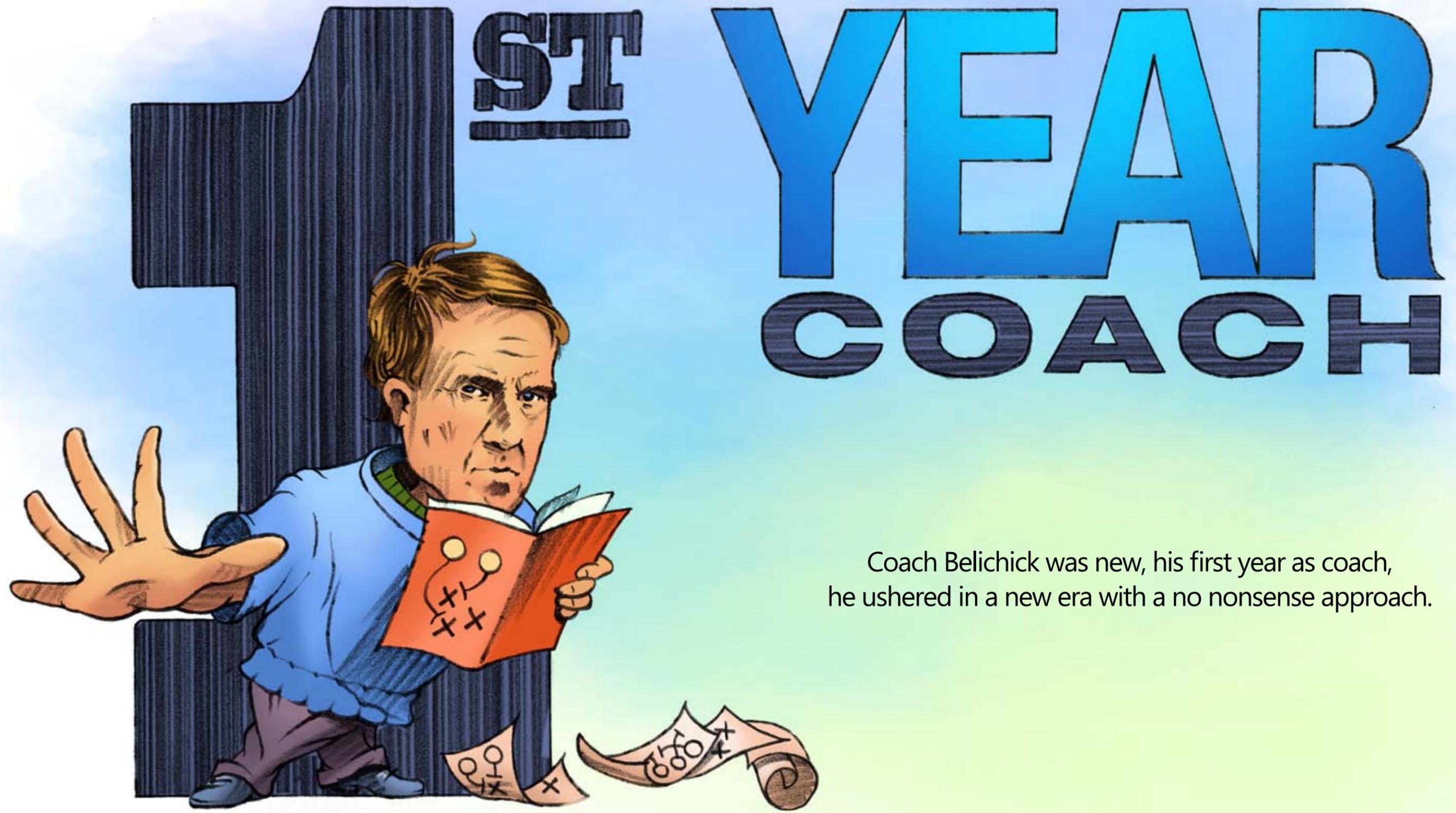


...but before we begin, I want to go back in time, back to the 2000 NFL Draft and pick 199.

MADISON SQUARE GARDEN  
**2000 NFL DRAFT**



The New England Patriots were on the clock, day two, round six. Bill Belichick drafted quarterback Tom Brady with one of his last picks.



# 1ST YEAR COACH

Coach Belichick was new, his first year as coach, he ushered in a new era with a no nonsense approach.

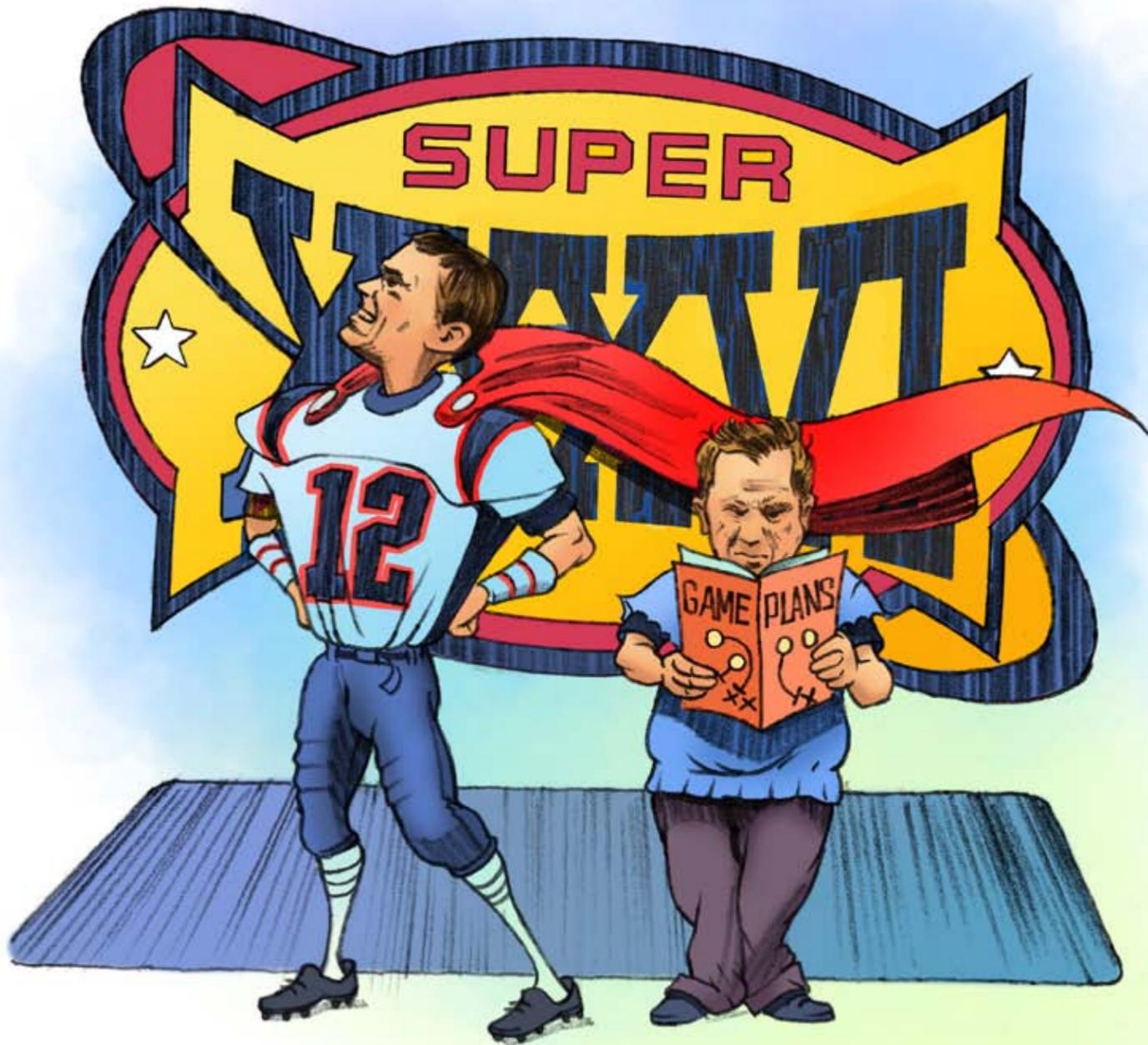


Brady was a player from Michigan, whom no one gave a chance. Other teams passed him up, believing he wasn't worth a glance.



...but it didn't take long for these two men to impress, Belichick and Brady together were an instant success!

New England won Super Bowl 36 in the pair's second year, a coach and quarterback combo other teams grew to fear!



A dynamic duo, they transformed that Patriots team, from a franchise never winning, world champions now their theme.



In a nail-biter of a game, they caged the Panthers in Super Bowl 38. When they beat the Eagles in Super Bowl 39, everyone knew they were great.



Many thought their time had passed but they held their own just fine. They beat the Seahawks ten seasons later, to win Super Bowl 49.



Earning four championship rings made this duo elite, but it was Super Bowl 51 that would be their greatest feat.

That brings us to the crazy season of the year 2016, which started as a nightmare, but ended as an incredible dream.

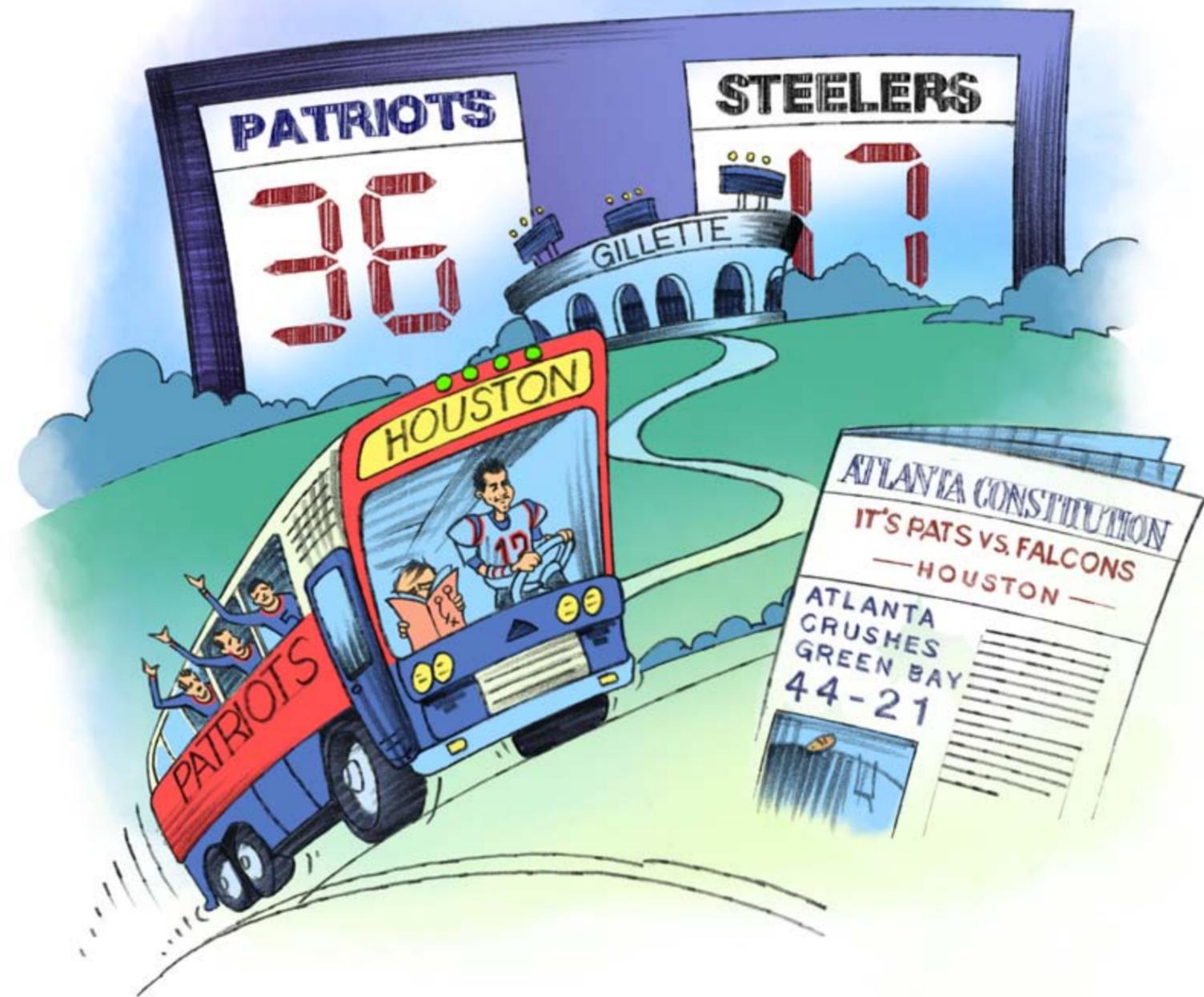


Commissioner Roger Goodell suspended Tom until the fifth game, all because of some deflated footballs. Oh Roger, that was lame!

...but after a three and one start, there was no reason to worry, Coach Belichick had the team back to first place in a hurry.

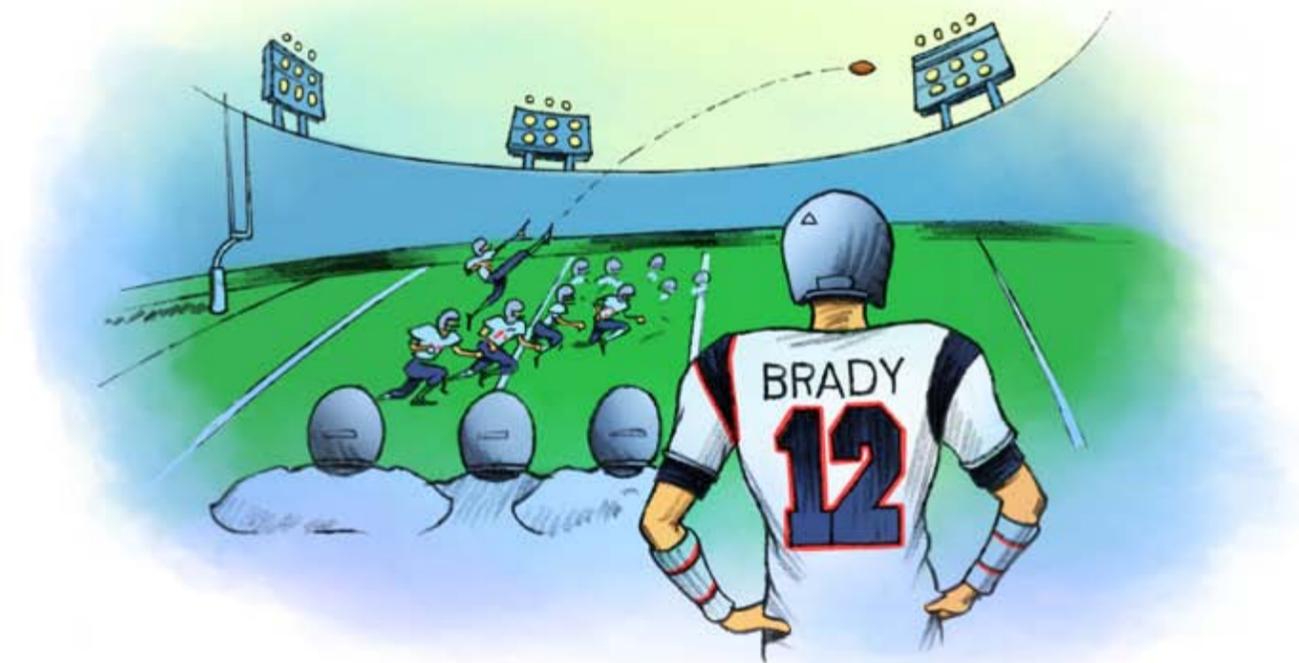
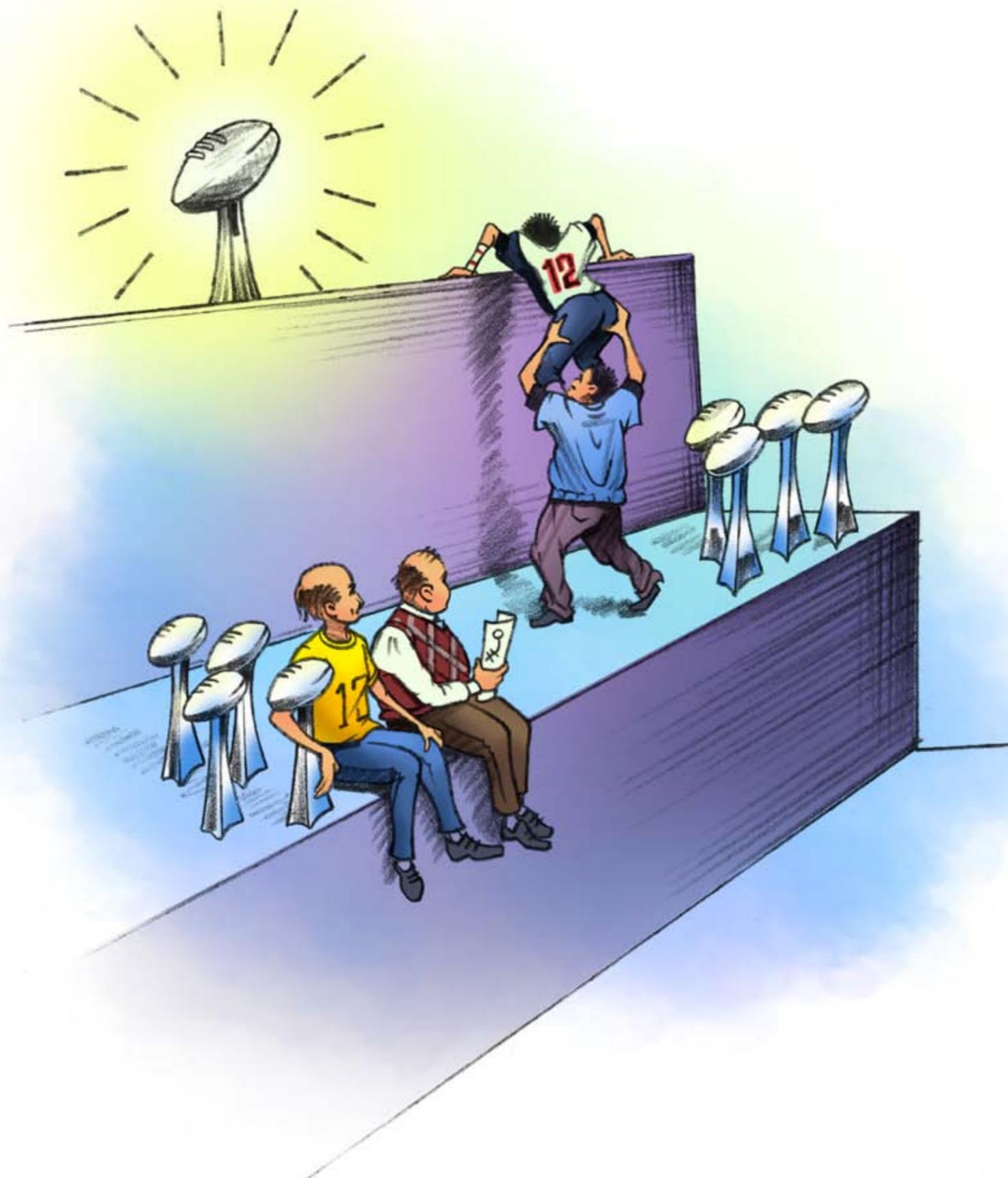


When Brady returned, there was no stopping this team. "We want number five!" all the fans would scream.



The Patriots made the playoffs with relative ease, then won the AFC Championship; whooping Pittsburgh was a breeze! Off to Houston, where Super Bowl 51 would wait, against the Atlanta Falcons whose offense was great.

Looking to make history, Belichick and Brady were ready to thrive.  
No quarterback-coach duo had ever won number five.



The ball kicked off and the game was underway,  
if Brady led the Pats to victory, he'd be the best to ever play!



The first quarter drew to a close; the game started off as a bore.  
Both teams punting back and forth, zero-zero was the score.

That wouldn't last long because the Falcons got hot. They started the second quarter on fire, while the Patriots did not.

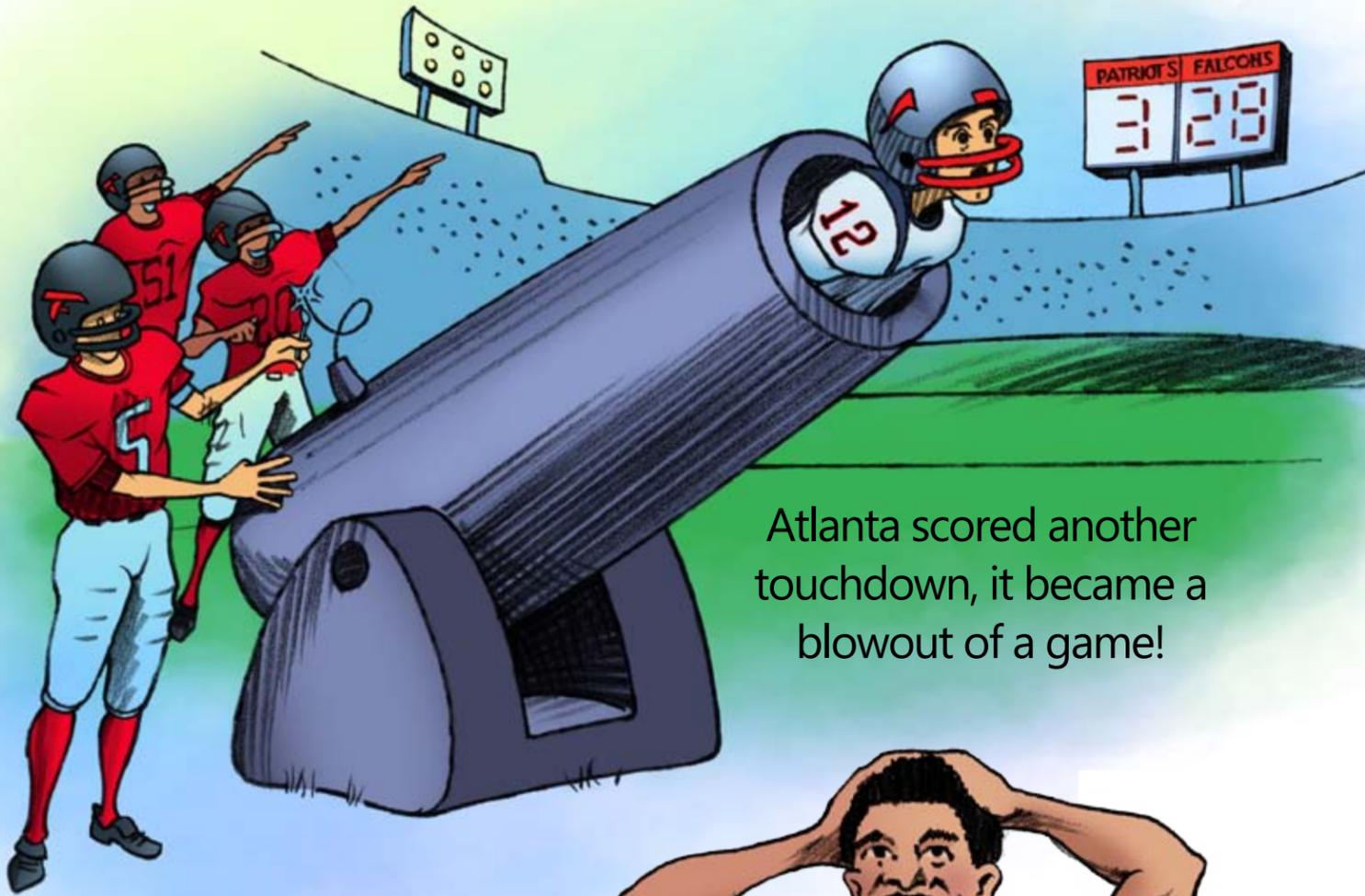


Before you could blink, the Patriots were down 21! Atlanta had three touchdowns, New England had none.



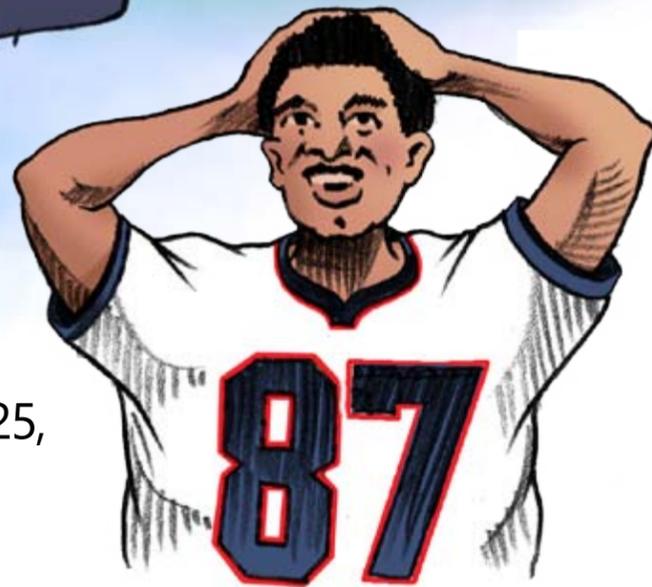
The Patriots managed a field goal, as the first half came to a close. Tom Brady seemed frustrated, he kept missing on his throws.

The second half got underway, but it was more of the same.

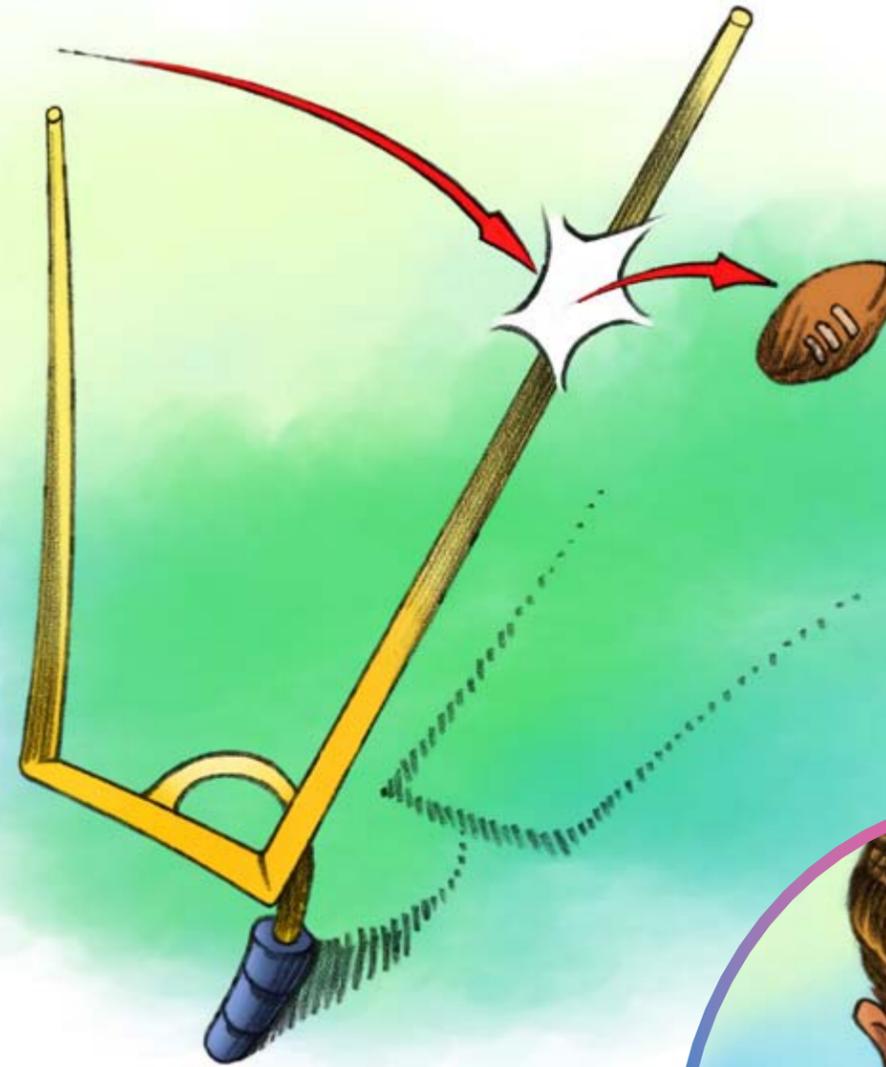


Atlanta scored another touchdown, it became a blowout of a game!

Midway through the third quarter, the score was 28-3. The mighty Patriots down by 25, how could this be?



Brady responded and led the team to a touchdown, but a missed extra point caused Coach Belichick to frown.



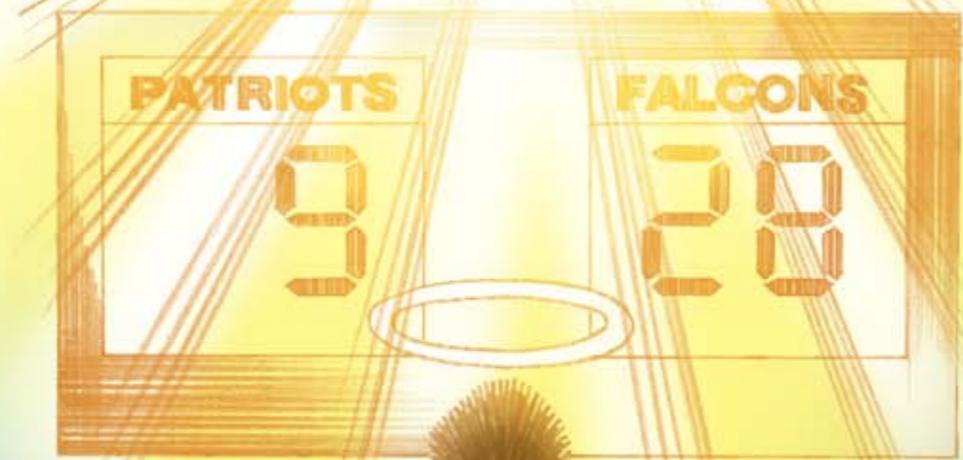
He called for an onside kick, trying for a trick play. It didn't work as planned, things still weren't going their way.



...but as many times before,  
Tom Brady was up to the task.  
Like a real life super hero,  
"Mr. Fourth Quarter"  
put on his mask.



Slowly but surely, he got the team back in the game.  
Hitting many different receivers, it didn't matter their name.



The score was 28-9, with only one quarter left to play,  
a Patriots win here would take a miracle that day.



Play after play the momentum started to swing.  
New England down but never out, they heard no fat lady sing!

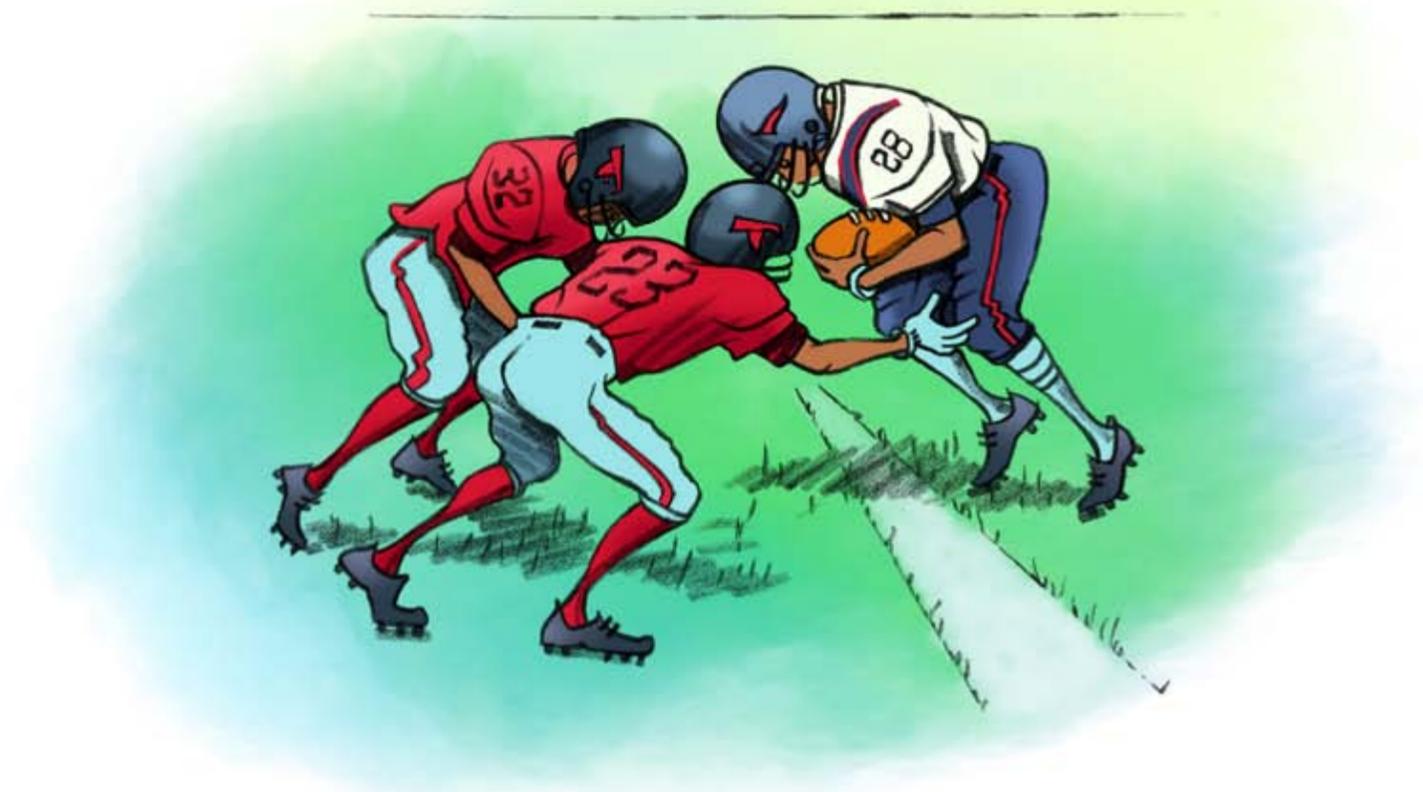


The Patriots down by eight, Brady ready to lead,  
a touchdown and two points now would complete  
the greatest Super Bowl comeback ever seen!

He marched them down the field with the help of a wicked play, Julian Edelman's catch was the greatest ever, many fans would say.

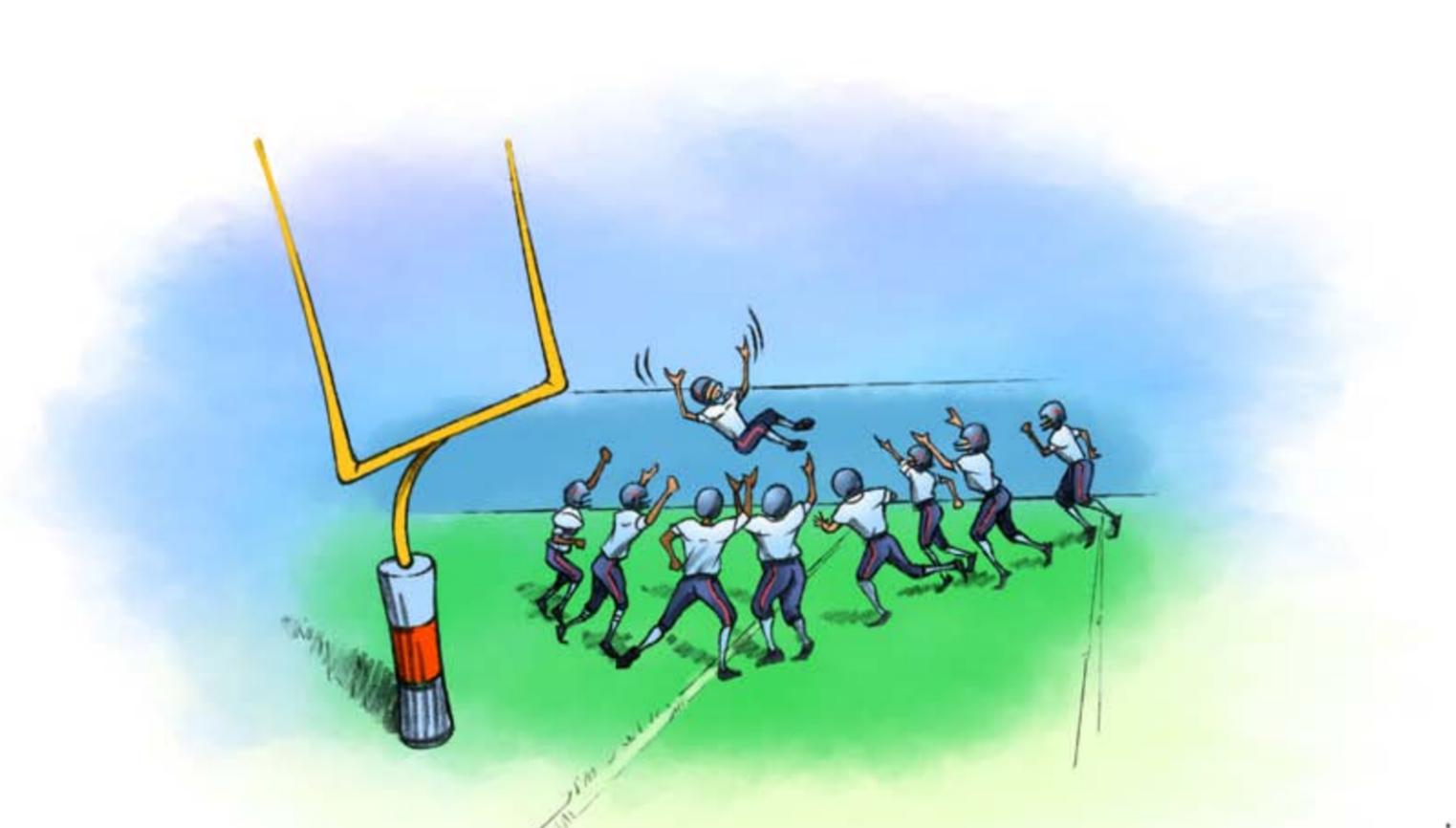


The Patriots closed the gap with a great touchdown run, then tied it up with a two-point conversion - man, this was fun!





The game went into overtime and New England received the ball. When Brady took the field, the Falcons feared they had no chance at all!

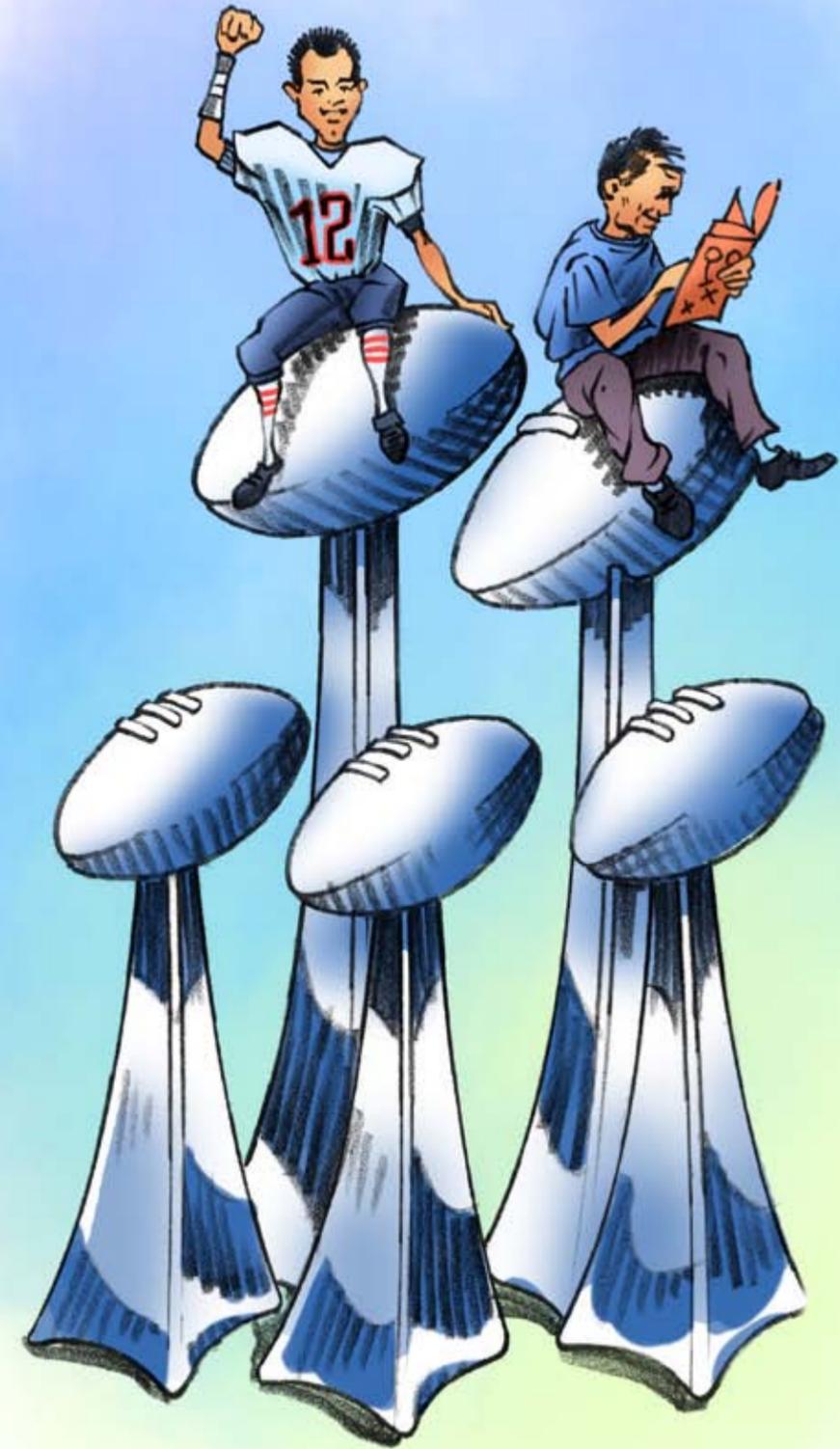


It didn't take him long to drive down the field for the win, Atlanta was left crying, agonizing over what might have been.





Quarterback and coach hugged at midfield, the miraculous comeback complete.



Five Super Bowl wins - the most ever, making both men elite.



Goodell handed Brady the Lombardi and Game MVP, too.



...and to think it all started years ago, pick 199, round six of day two.

---

It is our mission to promote children's literacy nationwide.  
Through our books, we hope to inspire a lifelong love of  
reading by touching the hearts of children and adults alike.

---

### From the Author

Growing up, I was all about sports - football, soccer, baseball, you name it. If it wasn't sports related, I wasn't interested. My love for sports is a passion that has shaped my entire life. I am fortunate to play soccer for a living, but it's bigger than that. My most cherished childhood memories are centered around watching a big game; my relationship with my wife sparked by a mutual love for Penn State football, and my passion for Tampa Bay sports keeps me close to home, even though we've moved all over the country. I owe so much of my life to sports.



The idea to tell these stories came about after the birth of my daughter, Remy. I wanted to create a vehicle that I could share my love of sports with her, in a way that would hopefully build a bond we'd share forever. Reading together provides a way for parents and their children to share in special moments, but I want these stories to do even more. I want to reach the kids like me, the ones more likely to grab a ball than a book. It is so important for a growing mind to fall in love with reading and I hope these stories can bridge a love for sports with a newfound passion for reading.

— Jeffrey Attinella

### From the Illustrator

As the father of two very active boys it's hard to get your hugs in. But I had a secret weapon. Story time. Break out the books and the boys would crawl up into daddy's lap and snuggle in for as long as dad would read to them. It was our thing. After a while, they would trace their tiny fingers along the text as I read to them picking out a word or two. In time, they began reading to me, "One fish two fish red fish blue fish" haltingly at first but gaining in confidence fast. It's hard to overestimate the advantage my boys gained from having such a solid reading comprehension foundation going into kindergarten and the effect it had throughout their educational careers and beyond. And it's probably no coincidence that one of those boys now makes his living as a writer. (Though his brother is no slouch as he closes in on his engineering degree.)



The love of reading is a gift you can give your kids that lasts a lifetime. It can fill that life with adventure, knowledge, independence, wisdom and self-esteem all for the price of a library card. And Dad, well, he got his hugs.

—David Boyd

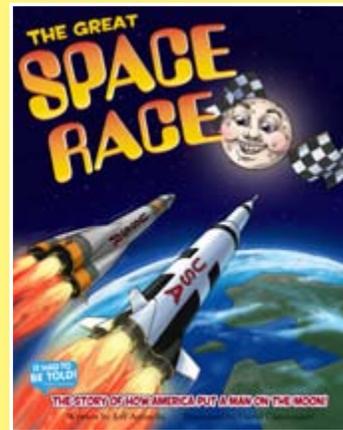
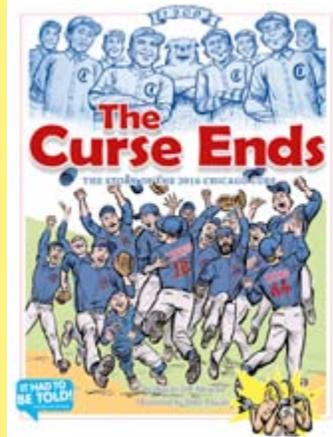
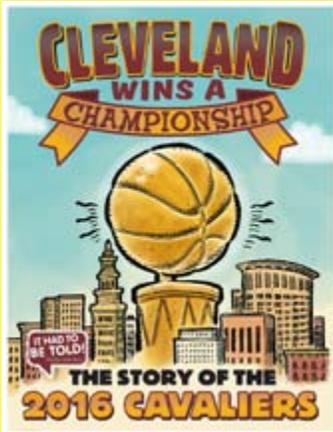
**IT HAD TO  
BE TOLD!**<sup>TM</sup>  
PUBLISHING

I want to tell you a story...  
*ONE THAT I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE!*<sup>TM</sup>

**IT HAD TO  
BE TOLD!**<sup>TM</sup>  
PUBLISHING

I want to tell you a story...  
*ONE THAT I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE!*<sup>TM</sup>

...a few of our other books



See all of our book titles at [www.ItHadToBeTold.com](http://www.ItHadToBeTold.com)

**IT HAD TO  
BE TOLD!**  
PUBLISHING

ISBN 978-0-9989440-1-2 \$17.99  
5 1799 >



9 780998 944012