

FISHER steps away. Touches the battered flying jacket.

Start here.

FISHER

Yeah, Bob, he showed Wikowski how to rhumba. Showed me how to do the Texas swing. He'd get a dozen guys all dancing, as he counted out the time and we're all humming. Got our arms held out, just like we had a woman.

SUSAN

Make believe.

FISHER

So we'd be ready, for the colored lights and streamers at the church, the USO. And Bob would be the lady. Did you know that? Just for fun, for demonstration. There's this hulkin' Polish kid from Kansas, he's manhandling Bob to demonstrate the mambo - we're all laughing, but we did learn how to do it. Or this shrimp Italian guy who Bob just towers over, he is spinning Bob and dipping Bob, so we can see the Cuban step.

SUSAN

Bob and I would dance all night. It felt like flying.

FISHER

Yeah, nobody else could do the lady steps. But Bob was so good, he could do it backwards. And we'd call him Susan. Sue.

(off her look)

I mean, 'cause he was thinking of you, thinking how you'd do it. If we couldn't get the step, making believe, Bob would step over, let us practice. Your hand on Bob's waist, your hand in Bob's hand - I mean, we were praying no one saw us. But it helped, so you could concentrate on what the steps were, not on your imaginary woman who kept changing shape, you'd lose your grip on her. I'm having trouble, Bob would do your part until I picked the guy part up. He was very businesslike about it, keep a straight face so I wouldn't get embarrassed. 'Susan' taught me how to swing. I spun Susan all around an airplane hangar. We all got to dance with you.

SUSAN

. . . I always have to share him.

FISHER touches the flying jacket.

FISHER

Yeah, I'm just so tired of everybody saying sorry. Nothing they can do about it, doesn't change a thing but you got to say something.

(beat)

I am sorry.

SUSAN

Yeah.

FISHER
 Susan. Susan McCallan. I'm. So. Sorry. About Bob. **End here.**

SUSAN gently pounds the "Bob" label on FISHER's chest.

FISHER starts to step away, to give her privacy. But SUSAN reaches out for him. We see "Bob" on FISHER's coveralls as he does his best to hold her.

As LUCY strides in from the hangar.

SUSAN shoves away from FISHER.

LUCY
 Well, what's Bob gonna say?

SUSAN yanks the flying jacket off the coatrack, grabs the wrench and exits to the hangar.

FISHER
 (quietly)
 Happy birthday.

A plane takes off.

SCENE 5

FISHER sits heavily at the desk. LUCY glares at FISHER.

The lights change to late afternoon.

As LAURA steps through the front door.

LAURA
 Hey, where's Susan?

LAURA takes a piece of paper off of Susan's desk, and starts making a paper airplane.

FISHER
 Took the Piper up.

LAURA
 Well, finally. What?