

# The Secret Wish™

A mother's quest to reclaim a life...lost to war.



A love story, a spy story...based on true stories.

By

**Robert John Hunter McManus**

## **Dramatic Reference**

Thornton Wilder's "Our Town" (1938)

meets

Robert De Niro's "Deer Hunter" (1978).

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Lancaster County, PA



Cherry Blossom B&B and Barn, (Bird-n-Hand)

## The Secret Wish (154 pages, 157 scenes, 140 minutes)

The year is 2007. Eighteen-year-old Robin Everhart Hawkins awaits the birth of her first born. Her childhood sweetheart and husband KC Hawkins is on his very first deployment in Afghanistan with the Marines. With the news of her husband's death, Robin (orphaned eight years earlier) is so distraught, she delivers the couple's first born two weeks early.

By 2014, the 25 year-old Robin is a single mom and middle school music teacher in Lancaster, PA. Though teaching for just one year, Robin is recognized throughout the state for her highly successful music therapy with Autistic children. Given the dozens of severely damaged soldiers from the longest war in U.S. history, the Marines have asked Robin to bring her music therapy to the military hospital outside of Frankfurt, Germany to see if she can reach the "Missing Marines" of Afghanistan.

In her first trip to Germany, Robin "accidentally" enters a ward of severely wounded and bandaged Pashtun warriors. All six were paralyzed in fear of the blue-eyed beauty...**all except one**. Near the end of her second summer of work with the "Missing Marines," Robin has another "accidental" encounter with a single Pashtun warrior. Despite the loss of his left arm and wearing a sprinter's prosthetic leg where his left leg once was, the "Blade Man" closely resembles Robin's late husband. But the "Blade Man" does not know Robin and only understands Pashtu. Nonetheless, just as her music has reached the "Missing Marines," the "Blade Man" has opened up Robin's heart, "missing" since her husband's death. Is Robin experiencing "transference" and filling her empty heart with a substitute love, or by some miracle, is this bald, beard to his belly warrior who does not know her...her only love... KC?

In her search for the truth about her husband, Robin's three year quest takes her to Capitol Hill in Washington, DC, Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia, Ramstein Air Force Base outside of Frankfurt, Germany and Camp Delta (the terrorist prison) at the U.S. Marine Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. To help Robin navigate her way through her first intelligence operation... is a retired CIA Agent. The "Black Ops" expert reshapes Robin's reality and sets her on a path she has only dreamed about.

Find out what happens when a Middle School music teacher "crosses swords" with the world's most powerful intelligence agencies, to reclaim her life, lost to war and fulfill a long held and irrational...  
**...secret wish.**

***“Money and women make the world go round...  
...but not necessarily in that order.”***



## **James Patrick Considine 1866-1948**

Founder of Rosemont College (1<sup>st</sup> Catholic College for women in PA)

President of the North American (Philadelphia Inquirer)

Founder of Mother's Day

Author's Grandfather

<https://fearlessonestudios.com>

## The Five Levels of “The Secret Wish”

<b>Love Story Audience</b>	a single mother’s quest to reclaim a life and love... lost to war 110M women and girls
<b>Spy Story Audience</b>	tracks the dynamic change in a single woman from a scared <i>victim</i> to a powerful <i>adversary</i> 10M single Moms, 3.8M Teachers, 2.7M Nurses
<b>Soldier’s Story Audience</b>	a soldier struggles to overcome his captivity, torture and lost identity 21.5M veterans and their families
<b>Political Story Audience</b>	Journalists/Pundits (both liberal and conservative) will question the movie’s depictions, i.e. 1. Why depict a Pashtun Tribe from Pakistan as no different than a Christian Family from rural Pennsylvania? 2. Why infer the CIA is no different than the KGB? 3. Why claim the media is complicit with our government as both edit the truth before reporting to Americans? Most Americans no longer trust our government to report the truth.
<b>Spiritual Story Audience</b>	Without moralizing and without asking, TSW implies three questions: 1. If there is a heaven, what does ours look like? 2. Are our deceased loved ones already in our heaven? 3. Will we ever see our deceased loved ones...again? Most EVERY religion on Earth believes in <i>some form</i> of an ‘after life.’

### SKINNY ON THE CRITICS

“American Sniper” was a difficult movie to market. Yet, cable TV commentators took the movie to a \$300M Box Office. In discussing the FIVE LEVELS of TSW, critical pundits will drive our movie’s Buzz and Box Office. In The Secret Wish, *our* Marine Sniper:

1. kills no one
2. is physically imposing but,... is *no match for his wife*
3. maintains his own high standards/beliefs/character, *no matter his circumstance* (devout Christian or devout Muslim, he remains HEROIC).