

A note from the playwrights about *ReEntry*'s main characters:

CO:

CO is a full Colonel in his mid-40s (can be played slightly younger or older). An infantry commander who is full of love and passion who climbs mountains and runs ultra marathons for fun. He is extremely fit, confident, and an excellent leader who cares deeply about the men and women he leads. He has a stoic and steely presence, but allows vulnerability to show through at times. He is in no way weary or battle worn, but the cracks are beginning to show at the end of the play.

PETE:

Pete, a retired Gunnery Sergeant in his late thirties/early forties, wears either an eye patch or a prosthetic eye, and may have other physical limitations. Due to his injuries, he is legally blind. He hides his injuries very well, and he never uses a cane or any other aid. Like the classic high school football coach, he is a father figure to many, and he is very strong and inspirational in his views. The only thing dearer to him than the Marine Corps is his wife Maria, and after many years of marriage they still look at each other with adoration. When they're together, you can see what a great team they make.

MARIA:

Maria, mid thirties/early forties, is the ultimate Marine Corps Wife. She is strong and supportive of her husband. She is by no means simpering or passive. She believes in the military and concept of service, and will fight for her family at any cost. She loves her husband very much, and though she recognizes the challenges they face, she knows that they are a strong team. She is very well versed in the realities of both service and war.

JOHN:

John, a USMC Captain, early to mid thirties, is a cocky SOB and he loves it...and we love it too. With a ferocious wit and fierce intelligence, we have to struggle to keep up with him; he thinks so fast he never has to pause. John makes no apologies for his off-color language or viewpoints. He believes himself to be the expert on everything, and he will give you "the real deal, no bullshit" view on any topic. He is charming, charismatic, and mildly terrifying. He is the kind of guy that you would love to have as a friend and ally, and under no circumstances would want to have as an enemy. He has everything under control, until he doesn't.

CHARLIE:

Charlie, early twenties, is a Lance-Corporal. The best phrase to describe Charlie is happy-go-lucky. He loves to flirt, loves to party, loves his motorcycle. His natural energy is very joyful, which is why his mood swings are such a surprise to those that know him.

When John and Charlie leave voicemail messages, there is absolutely no hint of sentimentality. He is very much a kid, until he has to grow up.

LIZ:

Liz, Charlie and John's sister, can be as young as twenty-five, as old as late thirties. More so than the other characters, Liz speaks to the audience as if she's talking to a good friend. She is our way into this world. She can be sarcastic and dark, but like John and Charlie, has a wicked sense of humor and is fun to be around. She is sorting out the journey of having family in the military and is trying to find ways to be supportive and understand what her brothers are going through.

MOM:

Mom to Liz, Charlie and John, in her late fifties, is very maternal and supportive, and she has a strong sense of the reality in terms of what her children are going through. In a crisis she focuses on what she can do, she focuses on taking action, and she focuses on being the mother that her grown children can turn to. She is not self-pitying, though she is in touch with the emotional toll that being a military mother can take.

TOMMY:

Tommy, early thirties, a USMC Staff Sergeant, is the kind of guy you want on your fire team. He's super chill in a Southern Californian sort of way, but don't let that fool you. Tommy can afford to be chill because he's a real bad-ass when he needs to be, with a bone dry wit that's designed to put you at ease, make you feel safe and comfortable (which he's great at) but that same sense of humor can cut like a knife when he wants it to. He is very matter-of-fact, playful, and just a bit cocky. Tommy's method of coping with his injuries is no self-pity, and when he says, "it could be worse", he means it.

SUZANNE:

Suzanne, mid twenties to mid thirties, is from a military family, and prides herself on being an excellent Marine Corps Wife. She knows the drill, she's been through it many times, and is explaining it all to a good friend with a large amount of humor and self-deprecation. She really believes she was responsible for the violent episode with her husband, and there is no pathos in her relaying of the story.