

65 EXT. OFFICE BUILDING 65
 Clark's building. A new high-rise in the heart of the city.

66 INT. BUILDING - COFFEE STATION 66 *
 Clark and a co-worker, BILL BURKE, are standing at the coffee station, sipping coffee and chatting. *

BILL
 You'll be looking at a nice fat Christmas bonus this year, huh? *
 From what I hear, you have an excellent shot at being named Food Additive Designer of the Year. *

CLARK
 Nah.

BILL
 I'm not kidding. What's the new thing you have over at Food and Drug? *

CLARK
 Non-nutritive cereal varnish crunch enhancer. It seals the cereal to prevent the milk from penetrating it. *

BILL
 The big question is, what're you gonna do with that big, fat bonus check? Blow it on yourself, I hope? *

CLARK
 Me? Heck, no. Take a look at this. *

He removes a worn, color brochure from his inside jacket pocket and hands it to Bill. *

INSERT - BROCHURE

An ecstatic all-American family frolicking in a deluxe in-the-ground swimming pool and spa. *

CLOSEUP - BILL

He peruses the brochure, sufficiently impressed. *

BILL
 You're putting in a pool? *

(CONTINUED)

66 CONTINUED: 66
 CLOSEUP - CLARK *

A proud smile. *

A67 INT. ANOTHER CORRIDOR - CLOSEUP - FEET A67 *

A flying wedge of black wingtips march down the hall.

B67 INT. OFFICE - CORRIDOR - COFFEE STATION B67 *

Clark admires the brochure over Bill's shoulder.

CLARK

It's my Christmas present for Ellen and the kids. I'm gonna turn the old homestead into our own private summer resort.

BILL

Boy, what's it gonna set you back?

CLARK

Can't put a price on happiness, Bill. Plenty. But with the bonus check coming, it's covered. I went ahead and put a seventy-five hundred dollar deposit down so they'll start work as soon as the ground thaws. With the heater, we can be in that thing by May.

BILL

I guess you're the last true family man. Me? Christmas is a big pain in the ass. I get a sore face from smiling for five days at people I hate. I had the perfect holiday last year. Piled the kids in the car, drove by my sister's house, blew the horn, and threw the gifts on the lawn.

CLARK

You're a sentimental guy, huh?

BILL

What's Christmas anyway but an economic high colonic.