

ANNOUNCE R

Scene One

(In the dark, we hear the sound of chimes.)

ANNOUNCEMENT. *(Voice-over.)* Attention all residents of Seaside Heights Manor! The groundskeepers have asked that those of you using walkers, please stay off the putting green. The extra holes are making the game too easy.

(Curtain rises.)

(Morning.)

PAUL, a man in his seventies, wearing a robe over his pajamas, is seated on a bench on the grounds of the Valley Seaside Heights Manor Retirement Home. He has socks and slippers on his feet. The newspaper he's reading covers his face. A pathway leads to the home itself. There are a number of bushes and plants, along with a tree that provides plenty of shade for the bench. The shrubbery, etc. changes with the seasons. It's almost spring. Sound of birds chirping overhead, followed by a "Plop" on his newspaper. **PAUL** lowers his paper and looks skyward.)

PAUL. And a good morning to you too.

(He removes dirtied part of newspaper and places it on the bench next to him.)

ANNIE. *(Offstage.)* Paul! You're not going to believe what's going on upstairs.

(ANNIE enters. She's a good-looking woman in her seventies, chic, with energy to spare. PAUL lowers his newspaper.)