

# Architectural Porn

*Part of the Scene Stealer Series*

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Brett Paufler

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I look at construction documents for a living. Well, I do a lot of things for a living and one of them is look at plans, but whether I make a living or not is highly debatable.

Most of the buildings I come across are uninspired. They were never meant to be inspiring. They are low cost, black boxes, squat and square, often with the only decorative feature being a sign or entrance awning.

Some are grandstands, big budget numbers, curving windows and glass being hallmarks of this sort of job, governments spending too much money, civic centers out to impress, or corporate headquarters eager to make their mark, inscribing their image on the landscape.

And then, there are the houses. I don't see very many houses. It's not what I do. Some are just your ordinary homes, nothing special. I don't even know why they get thrown into the mix, someone looking to save a little money, so they come my way.

And then, there are the masterpieces that no ordinary home builder could possibly construct: Frank Lloyd Wright inspired, architectural wonders, works of art, really, that aren't cut from the mold, doing something different, stepping away, beyond, the extraordinary.

I saw one of those this morning, oh, familiar, not altogether original, but a nice house, not quite a mansion, not by current standards. It was a three level, modern with sleek lines, wrap around patio, bay windows. It would be easy imagining a dinner party... or on Friday night, at the end of the week, glass of wine in hand, barefoot, walking around, dipping a foot in the pool, the reflecting pond, I don't think they had room for more, and just stand there, watching the sunset at the end of the day, start off the weekend, the night. And that's about my interest in architecture, for about here, my mind wanders, glass of wine in hand, ocean or hills in the distance, and in my arms a fine woman, a wife... I wonder who she is?

That's really the whole thing, I wonder who she is? How she came to be here? With me? And how we will spend this moment together, alone? Holding hands? Arms wrapped around? Watching the sun go down...