

Uncle Mike was very excited. He said he had been asked to direct a film starring an actor called Gordon Strong, who used once to be famous. In the film Gordon Strong would play a dashing secret agent, which is what he always used to do, but he would also have a partner. The partner would, of course, be less dashing, but it was work and the money was good, and it was up to Dad what he made of the part, said Uncle Mike.

Dad said, "Oh Lord! Gordon Strong!" and Uncle Mike said, "I know, but he's much better these days. In fact, I thought I might bring him round here. The family atmosphere, you know. He's very sentimental about families, never having achieved one himself."