

## Agent Gordon

*Genre: Spy, Drama, Detective*

*6 x 52 mins*

*Channel: BBC 1, Sky, Netflix, Showtime*

*Creators: Alexander Rubanov, Dimiriy Paltsev*

### Logline

In the middle of a full scale Cold War, an ordinary Soviet English university professor is sent to the UK to spy for his homeland. Chosen only for his immaculate language skills, he becomes one of the most successful entrepreneurs in England. Who is this man named Gordon Lonford? A successful businessman, who had escaped from the Soviet regime, or a clever and calculating spy, who had thought this all through in advance? A conflict of two systems. An ideology war. A victory of one man. This is not so much a tale of the Cold War backdrop against which it is set, but the story of the man embroiled in it. The story of a spy. The story of an entrepreneur. The story of a human being.

### Why watch this?

- Cold war stories will never lose their international appeal
- A compelling story based on real events
- A stylish period spy drama never told before in series

### Short Synopsis

*London, United Kingdom, 1955*

The first scene opens with tough negotiations between three Londoners and a Soviet spy trying to pass as an English businessman. An agent easily plays his role, his language, style and manners seem to be immaculate but one small English-language mistake leads to complete failure: *“My first business partner ‘learned’ me: ‘Keep your friends close, and keep your enemies’ wineglasses filled’.”*

The disfigured body is tossed into the river from a bridge: *“That’ll ‘learn’ those Russians a lesson!”*

This is witnessed by another Russian spy, who disappears as his colleague's corpse hits the water.

*Moscow, USSR.*

A meeting is being held at GRU. The GRU Colonel – Andrey Buldakov is dressing down his operatives. *'Learn the fucking language you idiots'*. They discuss what has just happened: the loss of one of their best agents, so now they need **to** send someone else; someone who is qualified to blend in as a native English speaker. They realise that they need someone whose English is flawless despite the fact that his intelligence skills may leave much to be desired. One of the officers reports that he has got someone who fits the bill: someone who has been under surveillance for a long time. The man went to school in the US, came back, fought in WW2, and now teaches Chinese.

The recruitment of Konan Molodiy happens within the walls of the university where he teaches. One of the 'students' stays after class. This is the GRU Colonel himself. He approaches Konan with a proposal.

*"The last guy had a slip-up in a conversation and his body ended up being dumped in a river. We need someone whose English is so perfect even Shakespeare would take lessons from him!"*

*Gordon: What kind of a spy would I make? I can hardly remember to zip up my flies! Not to mention losing my wallet and leaving bags on buses and trains. This is an enormous responsibility and I do not want to be under control all the time."*

*GRU officer: "If promotion isn't one of your priorities, I can give you another reason to cooperate."* He drops a stack of letters. These are the letters that Konan wrote to his aunt in San-Francisco. A flash of sudden realization: *"No wonder Auntie never wrote back!"*

Konan is flabbergasted. *"This is just personal correspondence! Why would they do this?"* The officer smirks: *"Personal? Oh... This is my favourite..."* He pulls out one of the letters from the pile and reads it out loud: *"I'm fed up to my back teeth here. I wish I could go back to **you**—at least for a little while."* The officer starts to tighten the screw. *"Fed up? With the USSR? Are you out of your mind? You want to go back to the US in the middle of the Cold War? Interesting! Now listen! "If you're as fed up with the USSR as you say you are, you'll welcome a change of scene.*

*"I know it gets quite bleak there in London at times. But have you ever been to the Gulag in February?"*

*London. United Kingdom*

A plane lands at Heathrow. One of the passengers is Gordon Longford: Konan, under cover, is to pass as a Canadian citizen. He repeats to himself the information about the contacts he has been provided by the KGB.

Gordon meets with his contacts—a couple in their 40s, Helen and Peter Kruger, residing in the UK with fake New Zealand passports. They fill him in on ‘Gordon’s background’ and give him the name of an ex-Admiralty officer he needs to approach. Gordon’s mission and assignment: find out anything at all about British nuclear submarines.

Gordon goes to meet Harry O’Brian in one of the London brothels, where the recruitment takes place. Harry agrees to collaborate, provided that Gordon helps him pay off all his debts.

Together they go to a private club to play poker. On the way there, Gordon is haunted by the thought about whether this is some kind of trap. He pays Harry’s debt and is invited to the table to try his luck. Never having gambled in his life before, but always game for an adventure, Gordon agrees and promptly loses all his everything.

He now has scarcely any money; hardly enough even to buy food. He realises that he will not be able to pay Harry for the first batch of information. He cannot borrow the money from anybody and he certainly cannot tell the Soviets about his failure. Panicky and agitated, he goes out to buy cigarettes, but everywhere is closed.

Back in his flat Gordon tries to calm down and pull his thoughts together. He recalls an episode from his childhood.

San Francisco. A young Gordon spends all the money his aunt had given him to buy groceries on chewing gum. A few days later he is selling candies to his schoolmates. End of flashback. Little did he know that this entrepreneurial spirit would later change the course of his life.

Gordon convinces himself that he will come up with something. He looks out of the window and sees a telephone booth. Thoughts and memories are running through his head: childhood, chewing gum, vending machines, cigarettes again... a telephone booth... an idea dawns in Gordon’s mind.

He draws up a basic blueprint for a vending machine and takes it to the Krugers, explaining that his Soviet bosses would never approve the plan. He asks them to finance it and they agreed to help him as long as he promises to do a small favour. They want him to pass a package to another spy and to pick up a parcel from him.

Gordon and the agent meet in a room at one of the most expensive hotels in London. At the entrance, Gordon is appalled by the splendour. Seeing

everyone around him bathing in luxury, he catches himself thinking, for the first time in his life, that he would not mind to live like this. He is both thrilled and shocked with what he sees. The agent treats him to an expensive whisky and they proceed with the swap. Gordon hands over an envelope and receives a suitcase in exchange. On opening the suitcase, he is confronted by a colossal amount of money and momentarily he is taken aback. “*Are you all right?*” the agent asks.

Gordon takes the suitcase to the Krugers and they give him the amount promised. He turns to them for help again, asking them to get a professional blueprint of a vending machine through their connections in the US.

The first vending machines are set up in London. They malfunction and instead of one pack, people get two. This attracts attention and the machines are soon a roaring success, even sprouting a black market in sales of the mistakenly-dispensed packets. By the time the mistake is fixed, there is not a smoker in London who would not have bought cigarettes from Gordon’s machines.

Harry passes Gordon the first batch of information. They meet in a toilet in one of the London theatres.

Meanwhile, in the same theatre, Jack Reed - a detective sergeant with Scotland Yard—gets a tip from one of his informants. Gordon is stressed; this was his first assignment. He heads off to the bar to get a shot of whisky. Gordon finds himself on a barstool next to Jack, who immediately notices Gordon’s nervousness. They talk about the play as if they knew something about it, but later realize that neither of them has seen it properly and that both are far from art lovers. They have a laugh about this and it lays the first stone in a foundation of mutual liking and friendship.

They leave the theatre and go to the nearest pub, which is owned by a stunning blond named Katie, who eyes Gordon carefully as he and Jack get totally wasted.

She notices that Gordon has got a strange way of lighting a match, covering it with his palm. Finally, she remembers where she saw this before!

Flashback. USSR. Young Katie watches a man lighting a match exactly the way Gordon just did it. The man had obviously just got out of prison and teenagers around him admire and emulate him like some kind of a pop idol.

Katie comes over to Gordon, while Jack is in the toilet, and asks him in Russian: “*Can I scrounge a fag?*” Being utterly drunk, Gordon mechanically answers in Russian: “*Yes, sure!*” No sooner are the words out of his mouth than Gordon realizes that he has probably just made the worst mistake of his life. Still, he carries on as if nothing has happened. He hands her a cigarette and lights another match—the Russian way.

Tension mounts as Jack returns to the table. Katie takes a puff of the cigarette and goes back behind the bar. The match burns Gordon’s fingers and he puts it out. Katie decides not to give Gordon’s secret away for a while.

Out on the street, Gordon puts Jack in a taxi and returns to the pub but the door is closed. He pounds at it and yanks it. Suddenly he hears a voice behind him asking in Russian: “*And how much longer are you going to knock?*”

Katie and Gordon go back into the pub. There are someone’s glasses on the table but neither of them notices. Katie demands to know who Gordon really is? He realizes he has got no other way but to take her down: if she turns him in, this will go down in the history of Soviet Intelligence as the biggest failure of all time. He fumbles for a gun in his pocket and points it at her through his jacket. Almost ready to pull the trigger he stops as Jack barges in. Gordon and Katie look at him with surprise. He crosses over to the table and simply picks up his glasses.

Jack, too, seems amazed to see that Gordon is still there. Gordon waits for Katie’s reaction but she remains calm as she decides not to give away Gordon’s ‘language skill’. Jack takes Gordon by the elbow and they both leave. Katie takes a deep breath and, with an unsteady hand, she pours a whisky and knocks it back.

Next morning Gordon ponders over what to do with Katie, also puzzled over why she did not give him away. He decides to return to her pub. Before going, he meets with Harry to go over the information he obtained from him the day before.

There is a meeting at Scotland Yard. Jack tries to catch bits and pieces, struggling with a hangover and the irritation caused by the noise around him. It is confirmed that the USSR has planted another spy in the capital and that there will be more to follow. Where and how he is going to act is yet to be figured out but one thing is clear: he will attempt to steal the latest military developments.

Spy phobia sweeps through the country. Headlines are urgent. A ‘wave’ of Soviet spies is apparently sweeping the land and everyone is urged to be on the lookout for anyone suspicious.

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Gordon has a visitor in his office. This is a new writer asking for help in publishing his new book. Gordon asks for his name. The writer replies: “*Ian. Ian Fleming.*” Gordon wonders what he writes about. Fleming says that it is a spy story. “*A spy accomplishes his mission in a place called ‘Casino Royale’ playing poker with a leading figure in the underworld.*”. Gordon smiles: “*A spy in a casino? That sounds so absurd! He is not losing all that the money MI6 has given him, is he?*” But for some reason he finds this idea fascinating and agrees to help the young writer as long as he promises not to disclose who his backer is.

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Gordon is outside the pub, waiting for Katie. She refuses to come out. She is scared that he might do her some harm. Through the doors she asks him to come back tomorrow in the evening when the pub is full.

He returns and the place is crowded. Katie insists he tells her who he really is. He tells her in a low voice, not wanting to be overheard, that he is part of a trade mission from the Soviet Chamber of Commerce. Katie does not believe him. She threatens to give him away, pointing out that, given the witch hunt for Soviet spies, he will quickly end up in the hands of MI6. After some consideration Gordon tells her the truth. Katie is shocked but tries to hide her amazement.

Gordon goes on to tell her about his vending machine business, but admits he does not know how to take the project any further. Being an experienced entrepreneur and a bar owner Katie gives him a valuable piece of advice. He's startled by how smart she is—her intellect and business acumen.

He decides to take her advice and things start getting even better. Over and over again he resorts to her ideas and one good thing leads to another. Little by little, they start seeing more of each other and they become involved in an affair.

At one of the meetings with Jack, Gordon notices that he is very upset about something. Jack opens up and tells his story to Gordon. Married to a woman he loves but not physically attracted. This leads him to look elsewhere for sexual pleasure—occasional one night stands, lovers and prostitutes; they have a child: that is the only thing that has been holding him back from getting a divorce but things are getting worse and now a divorce seems inevitable. Gordon is astonished that Jack shares these things with him. He surprises Jack by advising him to keep trying for the child's sake rather than telling him to leave his wife.

Gordon and Katie are in bed. He is smoking nervously. He is concerned about tomorrow's meeting with Harry. Katie tries to draw exactly what is bothering him. *"I don't think I am capable of being a spy. I don't even like this anymore,"* Gordon says. Katie picks up a cigarette and Gordon lights it in his usual 'Soviet' way. Katie corrects him, showing how English people do it. *"If I've told you once, I've told you a thousand times! You have to stop doing it like that! People will start asking questions."* Although more or less happy with her, Gordon is starting to realize that she is with him because she needs something from him. He demands she tell him. She is reticent but finally owns up. *"I want to go back to the USSR!"*

Gordon cannot understand why she wants to return. She tries to explain. Daughter of eminent Jewish surgeons, she has always been around the Soviet elite. She was used to this upper class, sophisticated society, which was still closed to so many people. Once obsessed with an idea that people in London are

even more intelligent and educated, she set her sights on leaving for England. To her surprise she was not welcomed with open arms by the London establishment which she had so anxiously wanted to be a part of. She was rejected in the same way she herself had snubbed so many people that did not match her social status. And though she has started her own business and owns a pub, she is surrounded with the working class that she detests. She is ready to settle for a simple and quite life, but this simple life must be different.

Katie asks Gordon to help her return. Not knowing exactly how will achieve this, he makes a promise. He needs to keep her happy. This woman is a very useful asset to him: an advisor and a lover who is always at his fingertips.

Gordon at last starts making a big profit. His business is growing. He does not need the KGB money anymore. He even goes as far as increasing Harry's pay. We see Harry celebrating this with prostitutes and a new car; everything he had dreamed of before but could not afford.

At one of their meetings, they somehow get into an argument over which system is better: Communism or Capitalism. Gordon explains his viewpoint on Communism. Everything is provided for the workforce and it is free: medicine, education and accommodation can be taken for granted, and employment is virtually one hundred per cent. Under the Capitalist system, on the other hand, people have to bend over backwards to make ends meet. Harry insists that Capitalism allows you to show your personal talents and skills and—even if Communism might seem good on paper—Capitalism enables the true you, with all your complexities as an individual, to grow and find success. Gordon tries to show that Communism is when you live modestly and yet everyone is equal. Harry disagrees and says that the word *equal* is exactly the problem. Capitalism gives you an opportunity not to be the same as everyone else but be who you want to be and can be. It gives you the freedom to live the way you want. After all: what is the point when statistically everything is perfect in your country but you are not doing well yourself?

We see Gordon out in the street, staring at a young happy couple passing by on a bicycle. A young man has got his girlfriend sitting on the crossbar and she is gazing at him, starry-eyed as he pedals along. Flashback. An 18-year-old Gordon is in a shop, looking at a bicycle. It is the best one he has ever seen. It is gleaming in the sunlight streaking through the window. Gordon looks at the price tag and it is astronomical. He heaves a sigh and leaves. End of flashback.

We then see Gordon walking into a car showroom to buy the most expensive convertible. He drives proudly away, conscious of the stares that he is drawing from passers-by. He gets a real high from being looked up to and revels in the attention that he gets from the fairer sex.

A new wave of profit comes from his business: even more than before. His vending machines are being set up everywhere in vast numbers. Gordon, in his office, is now counting money by the wad, rather than counting the notes as he had before. The wall of money builds up quickly. He is overwhelmed with

the realization that he is incredibly rich. He loses his self-control and starts smarting against the yoke. He goes to town on getting wasted in expensive nightclubs, sleeping around with women, buying expensive cars. He's living it up. The man seems to have forgotten his real purpose in the UK.

Katie is behind the bar, serving customers. She is waiting for Gordon to show up. A man walks in looking remotely like Gordon. Katie is trying to make out his face. No! It is not Gordon. Katie: "*Fucking twat!*"

#### *Moscow, USSR*

KGB officers are involved in their daily routine, watching foreign TV channels, headphones donned. Many different devices are on, lights are shimmering, and sensors are beeping. The BBC is airing a program about the most successful entrepreneurs in London. The program is called *Longford Vending Machines*. Gordon's picture is splashed across the screen, with a caption describing him as *Businessman of the Year*. Newspaper headlines form a slide show all repeating Gordon's success and the name of his company; *Longford Vending Machines*. Footage shows Queen Elizabeth presenting him with an award for as best entrepreneur of the year.

Paled and speechless, the officers leave the room. They hold an urgent meeting and—unlike other meetings—this one is totally silent. Everyone has a stack of English newspapers in front of them with headlines about Gordon. The officer in charge, a colonel: "*Arrange a rendez-vous. Urgently!*"

#### *London, United Kingdom*

Inland Revenue begin investigating him, suspicious that someone who should be living off a naval officer's salary is suddenly squandering huge amounts of money.

Harry is sitting in a chic restaurant. A down-at-heel Irishman walks in. The restaurateur kicks him out. Harry, having some Irish blood in his veins, stands up for the guy. The owner says that he does not want the clientele to be bothered by riffraff. Harry gets mad. He pulls out a wad of notes and throws them down on the table. "*Riffraff? Who're you calling riffraff? Eh? It's these upper-class bastards you ought to be throwing out! Get out of here, the lot of you!*" He turns to angrily confront the entire roomful of diners, who are look very uneasy and are exchanging comments. One or two bolder men among them are on their feet. The owner has signalled to the maitre d', who is gathering together three or four waiters.

Before anything else can happen, Harry rushes out of the restaurant after the down-and-out. He spots him just as the man is disappearing around a corner. Harry calls out to him, but the man does not stop. He reaches him a few meters further down the street. The Irishman turns around and points a gun at Harry. Harry is taken aback. Suddenly he is surrounded by police.

Harry is in police custody, undergoing some very harsh treatment. He is being interrogated. He has not been allowed to sleep at all since he was arrested. He is almost out of his mind. He has lost weight and is looking terrible. His speech is slurred and broken up. The interrogation is led by Jack.

#### *Switzerland.*

A secret meeting is taking place between Gordon and Soviet intelligence officers. Gordon is passing on to them the blueprints from Harry, which are hidden in a hollow walking-stick.

The information has been handed over and the mission seems to have been accomplished. The GRU agent pulls out a pack of cigarettes but finds it totally empty.

He fakes frustration. *“How come they don’t have those cigarette machines in Switzerland yet?”* He then turns to Gordon and says sarcastically: *“Your vending machines!”*

The GRU are pressing Gordon hard. He is caught off guard but he manages to pull himself together. He has got a strong defence. He says that he has successfully accomplished his first assignment and it does not matter how he managed it. The GRU agents are taunting him. *“Accomplished? No, not fully!”* Gordon is given a final task. He must kill Harry. Gordon complains.

*“I may be a spy but I’m not a murderer.”*

The GRU agent retorts: *“You should not be a millionaire either!”*

#### *London, United Kingdom*

Gordon is back home. He is lost and distressed. He goes to the pub to see Katie. They get into a row. She's upset and tells him that he's forgotten about her. He counters that he's been very busy and got in trouble with the GRU. Katie won't listen. She is indignant and kicks him out.

Gordon arrives at Harry's place. He rings the bell and hammers on the door. An annoyed neighbour comes out and tells him that Harry has been arrested. Gordon realises that if this appears in the newspapers, it would probably spell disaster. He finds the closest phone box and calls the GRU officer. He tells him that he will take care of Harry within the next two weeks—

as soon as the time is right. However, there is one condition. Gordon lets the GRU know that he will get rid of Harry just as long as they help Katie return to the USSR.

*Moscow, USSR*

GRU agents are holding an urgent meeting. Gordon's affair with Katie is on the agenda.

*"Yeah! He is one hell of an agent! Not only is his face on every TV screen, but this idiot started an affair with an immigrant whore and he's got the audacity to ask us to take her back with him?"*

The decision is made to keep things as they are. Gordon will stay in London for his 'next big job'.

*London, United Kingdom*

Jack walks into Harry's cell. He rolls up his sleeves and is about to lay into Harry again. Harry gasps: *"I've got something to tell you..."*

Jack rushes into his office, fuming. He's stomping around and swearing. His colleagues are taken aback, trying to take it in. It is dawn in London. Exhausted and bleary-eyed. Gordon walks to the newspaper stand. He immediately spots the latest headlines. Harry has confessed to spying for the USSR. The newspaper vendor recognizes Gordon; how could he not? Just about a week ago Gordon had been front page news. He looks at Gordon's pale face and asks if everything is all right. Gordon scarcely smiles back at him. He understands that he has to do something about this. He also realises that he needs to lay low for a while.

Morning. Jack visits Katie's pub and demands where he can find Gordon. She tells him she does not know. He is probably at home or in his office. Jack has been everywhere. Katie insists that she has no idea. Without ceremony, Jack starts to slap her around. Not able to hold it in, Katie tells him about the Krugers. Jack leaves angrily. Katie bursts into tears.

Gordon heads off to the Krugers. He needs their help to set him up with a temporary shelter before he figures out what to do next.

Quite by accident, Gordon bumps into Jack outside the Kruger's house. Jack says he's got something important to tell him and suggests speaking in the café nearby. At first Gordon refuses and explains that there is something urgent that he needs to do first but in the end, he gives in. There, in the café Jack reveals his true colours; that he is with the police. He tries to persuade Gordon to confess to his espionage activities, threatening to send Katie back to the USSR and pointing out that the KGB will surely not pass by someone who has defected. Scarcely able to contain himself, Gordon insists that this must be a

terrible mistake and that, apart from his vending machine business, there is nothing he can tell them.

*Moscow, USSR*

The plane with Katie on board lands in Moscow. GRU officers meet her at the airport. Having introduced themselves as Gordon's friends, Katie is taken to the GRU office, arrested, and put in custody.

*London, United Kingdom*

MI6 are holding a meeting regarding Gordon's future. They are trying to reach a decision as to whether to insist on the death penalty, or whether he should serve a life sentence. Eventually, the decision is made to keep Gordon in prison for the time being. MI6 currently have 6 spies working out of the USSR, so they can always swap Gordon in case any of their agents gets caught.

Prison. Gordon gets woken up by the warder. With a sack over his head, he's taken down the corridor thinking that he is going to be executed. He is now outside, dizzy from the fresh air. The sack is off his head and he is confronted by the gallows. He closes his eyes, thinking that this is the end. All of a sudden he sees Harry being dragged to the gallows from the other side of the courtyard. The two officers escort him to Gordon. They say that they have only 1 minute. Gordon smirks bitterly. "*See you soon, mate!*" He sees the second rope and is sure that he is bound to be the next.

At this very moment, we see the policeman walking over to Gordon saying, "*Thanks for your help.*" He grabs Harry by the elbow, leading him to the gallows. Harry glances back at Gordon. He is dumfounded he thinks that Gordon has managed to somehow escape execution by shifting all the blame on to him. His last look is one of utter hatred and disdain. Gordon figures what Harry feels. He moves to rush over to him but is stopped by the warders. He tries to shout to Harry that it is not his fault, but Harry cannot hear him.

Gordon tries to peel his eyes away but the guard is holding him tight so he sees Harry's convulsions.

*4 years later. Moscow, USSR*

A British spy has been caught in Moscow. This news is widely covered by the Soviet and Western press. The GRU calls an emergency meeting. "*Prepare for the swap!*" instructs the commanding officer.

*London, United Kingdom.*

We see Gordon playing chess with a warder. The warder is mystified. "*How in the name of God do you do that? My fifth loss in a row!*". At this

moment the door opens and we see MI6 officers enter. *“We’ve got news for you!”*

We see the warders escorting Gordon along a corridor. He tries to resist, shouting that he won’t go back to the USSR but would rather die. He is shoved into a car.

#### *The border of FRG and GDR*

The swap takes place in neutral territory, in the woods. Gordon and the British spy walk towards the designated line, exchanged a brief glance and each sets off towards his own side. We see the British operative embraced by his colleagues: he is greeted as a hero, whereas Gordon simply gets into a car on his own.

Gordon’s car moves away down the snowy road through the forest. A sudden explosion. In the spot where his car was just seconds ago is now a pillar of fire.

#### *London, United Kingdom.*

Jack is looking at a medal sitting at his desk. He has just been promoted. He grabs the latest edition of the Daily Mail to see that Gordon died in the explosion right after the swap. He is enraged: *“What the fuck!”* He hurries to his commanding officer and demands to be sent immediately to examine the place where Gordon allegedly died. His superior urges him to forget this case and Gordon once and for all. Otherwise he will get himself into trouble. Jack refuses to let it go. Threatened with dismissal he ignores the order and sets off for Germany.

#### *GDR–FRG border.*

We see Jack shivering from the cold, his hands rummaging through the snow, he is examining the spot where the explosion happened. He finally finds something. In an attempt to re-enact the scene in his head, it finally dawns on him. Momentarily he is fuming with anger: *“For what it’s worth, I’m going to get him from the ground.”*

#### *Guanhngoy, China.*

We see two Chinese men sitting in a hash house. It is pretty obvious by the tone of their voices and gestures that the conversation is of great importance. All of a sudden, one of them stops talking and looks over to a man sitting a couple of tables across from them. We see a poorly-dressed man, sitting with his back to the two Chinese men, devouring a cheap meal. The second Chinese also pays close attention to the man. *“Must be a foreigner,”* he says to his friend.

The two Chinese friends end their conversation, give something to each other and go their separate ways.

The owner of the place comes up to the man and asks if he'd like to order anything else. The man, in perfect Chinese replies jokingly that he is short on money, so would like to get the bill instead. The owner is surprised: How come the man is speaking Chinese as well as any native? Finally, we see the man's face. It is Gordon. He replies to the owner with a smile: "*I've just always been a good listener!*"

Credits.