

*Re: Dracula Episode 25: July 1—  
Strong Life*

*[A needle is set down on a record, and a phonograph crackles to life.]*

*[Soft background music plays.]*

SEWARD

Dr. Seward's Diary. 1 July.—His spiders are now becoming as great a nuisance as his flies, and to-day I told him that he must get rid of them. He looked very sad at this, so I said that he must clear out *some* of them, at all events. He cheerfully acquiesced in this, and I gave him the same time as before for reduction. He disgusted me much while with him,

*[A fly buzzes.]*

SEWARD (*con't*)

—for when a horrid blow-fly, bloated with some carrion food, buzzed into the room, he caught it,

*[The buzzing stops abruptly.]*

SEWARD (*con't*)

held it exultantly for a few moments between his finger and thumb, and, before I knew what he was going to do, put it in his mouth and ate it. I scolded him for it, but he argued quietly that it was very good and very wholesome; that it was life, strong life, and gave life to him.

This gave me an idea, or the rudiment of one. I must watch how he gets rid of his spiders. He has evidently some deep problem in his mind, for he keeps a little note-book in which he is always jotting down something. Whole pages of it are filled with masses of figures, generally single numbers added up in batches, and then the totals added in batches again, as though he were "focussing" some account, as the auditors put it.

*[The spinning of the phonograph fades out.]*