Last Lick

We recently happened upon Lili Chin's blog detailing the charming minutiae of life with her Boston, Boogie, (a video of his unwavering, single-minded focus on a tree containing a squirrel is funny, at least for we dog people, in its universalness; snaps of her pup cuddled into his new bed, adorable) and came across Lili's hilariously spot-on illustration of how NOT to greet a dog that we just had to share. Lili also has a Doggie Drawing project, in which she does custom pet portraits with 20 percent from each commission going to Boston Terrier rescue. We can think of more than a few people who would be delighted to receive a custom illustration as a gift. Check out her dog blog at boogiebt.wordpress.com and her Doggie Drawing project at doggiedrawings.net.

HOW NOT TO GREET A DOG

Most people do this stuff and it stresses dogs out so they BITE! I don't care how cute you (or your kid) think Boogie is. Please show him some respect.



Lean over the dog & stick your hand in his face



DON'T Lean over the dog & stick your hand on top of his head



DON'T Grab or Hug him



Stare him in the eye (This is an adversarial gesture)



DON'T Squeal or shout in his face



Grab his head and kiss it (This is an invasion of space)

Doing this to a dog who doesn't know you is like a perfect stranger giving you a great big hug and kiss in an elevator. Wouldn't that creep you out? And wouldn't you have the right to defend yourself?

THE CORRECT WAY:

- * No Eye contact
- * Let the dog approach you in his own time
- * Keep either your SIDE or BACK towards the dog (non-threatening posture)

* Pet or stroke him on the SIDE of his face or body. Or on his back.



