

April 19, 2018

From time to time even the most hound-savvy of us are baffled by the behavior of our Irish Wolfhounds. I've learned to simply ask Oona, my loving four-year-old, diva. Like most wolfhounds, Oona's quirky and opinionated, but she always tells it like it is.

Got a question? Send it to bob@thewildstare.com and Oona will get back to you as soon as she gets her nails done or she can prod the old guy to take dictation.

Is It Considered Poor Etiquette to Wallow in Roadkill?

Dear Oona: It is it considered poor etiquette to wallow in roadkill? All my friends think the smell is DE-lite-ful. But my humans make faces and chase me around all over the place when I do it.

— Lulu

Dear Lulu: Stick your guns, Lulu. Nothing a wolfhound ever does is in bad taste. It's your humans who are just being finicky

and out of touch again. Their noses are paltry things. They'd are to be pitied.

What sensible hound can resist a little eau de skunk or possum perfume? But beware The Bath. I like to keep dead things past their prime hidden in the back corner of the yard just in case my bipeds suddenly drag out the bucket and garden hose. One should always maintain ones proper personal scent. If possible, one should also share it with the couch and the humans' beds. You're a wolfhound. You rule.

Is It So Wrong To Eat Those Jogging Shoes?

Dear Oona: Why does my human go bonkers when I eat her expensive jogging shoes? I'm a slave to my nose. I was born to chew. Does she not know I can't *help* myself?

— Fingal

Dear Fingal: Relax. Every dog knows that humans are bat-crazy. Luckily they're also predictable.

Try this: Leave a shoe store circular lying around with the price of her shoes marked in red. Next to it, try leaving a grocery store ad with the price of pot roast circled. Let your human do the math. Either you start noshing on tasty-yet-nutritious new chews, or you keep eating every shoe in sight. It's win-win.

Unless she tries to scrimp and leaves those nasty pig ear things lying around. In that case, stick with the shoes until she comes to her senses. You're a wolfhound, darling. You deserve quality.