



**May 10, 2018**

**Dear Oona:**

**My neighbor is giving my human a hard time over how nice he treats me. He comes over and spots me on the couch and glares. He tells my owner that dogs belong outside. What do you do when a guy like this says you're "just a dog"?**

**Larry The Wolfhound**

**Dear Larry:**

I tell them they're just a monkey in fancy pants.

Of course, he wouldn't understand me because he doesn't speak dog. So I'd just smile sweetly and... stay the heck away from him. Hopefully he won't cause your human to backslide.

Humans are strange, Larry. It's like they're walking around with a bucket on their head. Some of them have an odd kind of blindness. They just see what's on the outside of someone. Since wolfhounds, dogs, cats, fish, moose and bobcats don't look at all like them, they think we're stupid and inferior. They only appreciate and respect their own kind. And their blindness keeps a lot of them from even doing that. If a human is just a little different from them, they write them off, too.

What a sad, dreary way to live...

Sure, some animals eat each other. It's how GreatDog wired us. But we don't *despise* each other for simply what we *are*. We look at each other and we see the personalities inside. We may not like them. We may not want to cozy up in a pile with them. In the case of my pesky nephew Oisin, we may want to bite their *heads* off sometimes. But we don't. We show them respect because GreatDog made them just like he made us.

It's lucky we're wolfhounds, Larry. People *see* us. If they spend much time with us at all, it shakes the scales from their eyes. That's because wolfhounds, as a rule, are fearless. We're not like some animals who're afraid to look a human in the eye. If a human is worthy, we just let it all hang out. We let them see who we are. Usually they do.

Some never will, Larry. Pity them. But stay away from them. They don't deserve to know you.

**Love Oona**