

## Something is **SCARING** Charlie.

He is trying to **hide** in his owners lap. His **tail is tucked** under his body and his **ears are lowered**. Charlie is doing everything he can think of to make himself **invisible**. Have you ever felt afraid of something? What made you feel better?



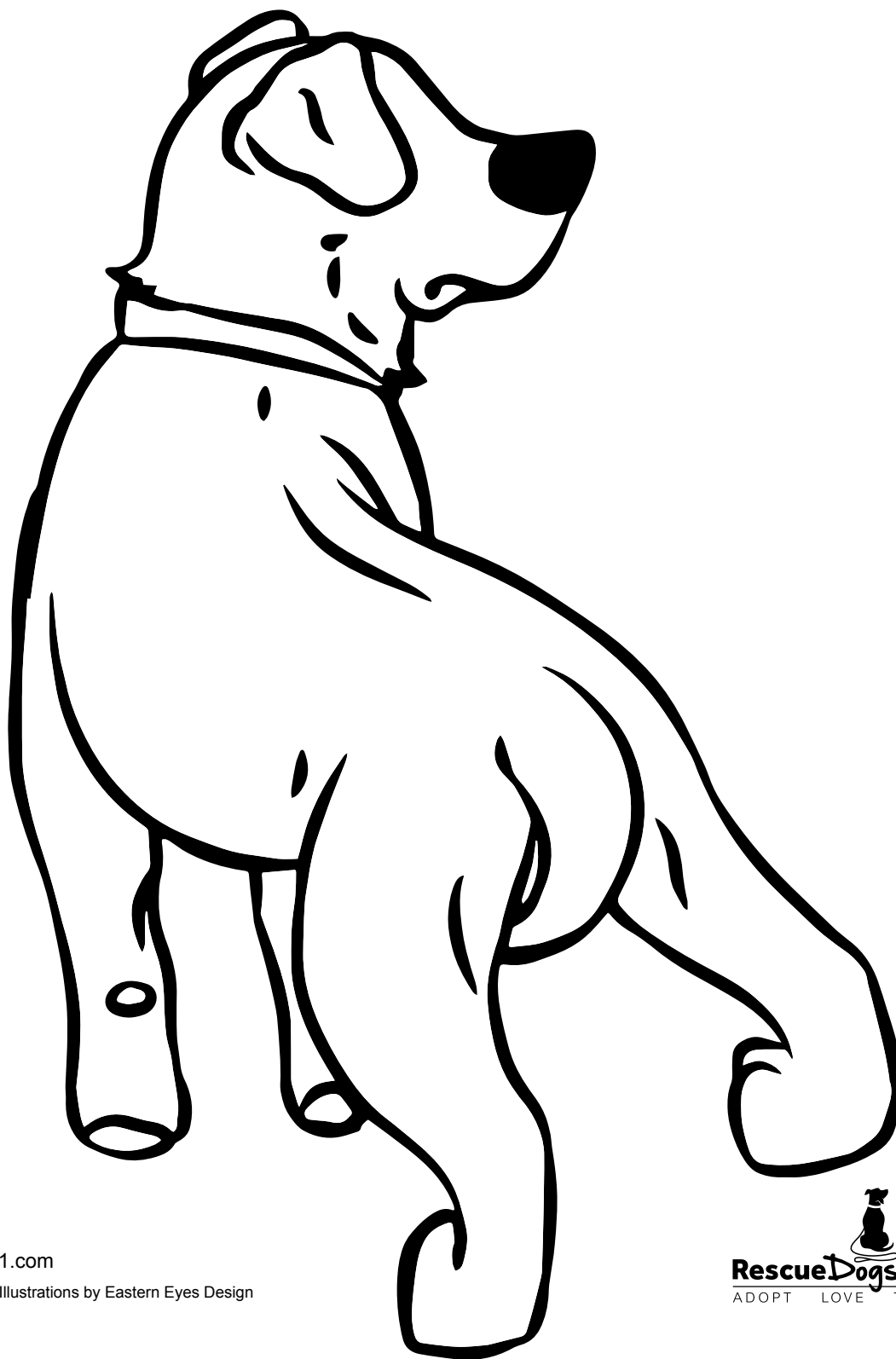
**Milo is feeling SCARED and STRESSED.**

His dad is trying to comfort him, but Milo is still **stressed**. You can see the **whites of his eyes**, this is called **whale eye**. Other signals are his **tilted ears** and his **paws** are spread apart with **nails extruding**.



**Bandit sees something very SCARY on his walk.**

You may think its silly to be **afraid** of a rock, bicycle or skateboarder, but he doesn't understand what these things are yet. See his **tail is tucked under his body**? What do you think Bandit is looking at that is so scary?





**Bailey is hoping that she is SAFE under this chair.**

Some dogs **hide under furniture**, like a chair or bed, when they are **frightened**. Baily has **lowered her head and ears** because she's not sure if it's safe to come out and play. Her **eyes are wide** and you can see the **whites of her eyes** (whale eye). It's important to give her **time and space** and not force her to come out from under the chair.

**Hershey is trying to be patient but  
is feeling STRESSED in this position.**

Do you see how his ears are titled backward, his eyes are squinting and his head is lowered? The girls hand on his head, the man's arms around his neck and leaning over him are all threatening behaviors to a dog.



**This poor puppy is very UNCOMFORTABLE and SCARED!**

Puppy is wishing her girl would not hold her like this. She is squeezing so tight it hurts and it's scary so far off the ground for this little one. This shows that even puppies attempt to use calming signals and body language to talk to us.



**Ruby is concerned that someone may steal her food.**

This is called **resource guarding** or **food aggression**.

Her **mouth is slightly open**, and her **head and ears are lowered**.

She has positioned her **paws around the bowl** to guard the food bowl.

You should **never approach** a dog while eating his food or a bone.



## Oscar thinks he should be the boss.

He is showing **dominance** over the other dog he is playing with by **bumping shoulders**. His **ears are held forward and high** on the head.

Oscar is **showing his teeth**, which can be a sign of **aggression**.

If you see your dogs playing like this,  
ask an adult to separate them and give them a time out.



**Molly is very UNSURE and STRESSED  
about this play style.**

Her **head is lowered** and her **eyebrows are furrowed**.

Molly is doing a **quick lick of nose**. These signals are telling the other dog she means no harm and this is **stressing** her out.

Do you ever feel this way when playing with a friend?



## Daisy is very SCARED!

She wants this person to back away. Do you see her **wide eyes** (whale eye)? She is **lowering her head** and **tilting her ears** way back. If she is not left alone, she may feel **pressured to bite** the hand approaching her. Not because she's aggressive but because she is so **afraid**.



**Finn is AFRAID of what is approaching him.**

What do you think it is that can be so scary?

He is pulling his **body away** from what is in front of him. He has **lowered his ears** and has lifted one of his **paw**, all **signs of fear**.



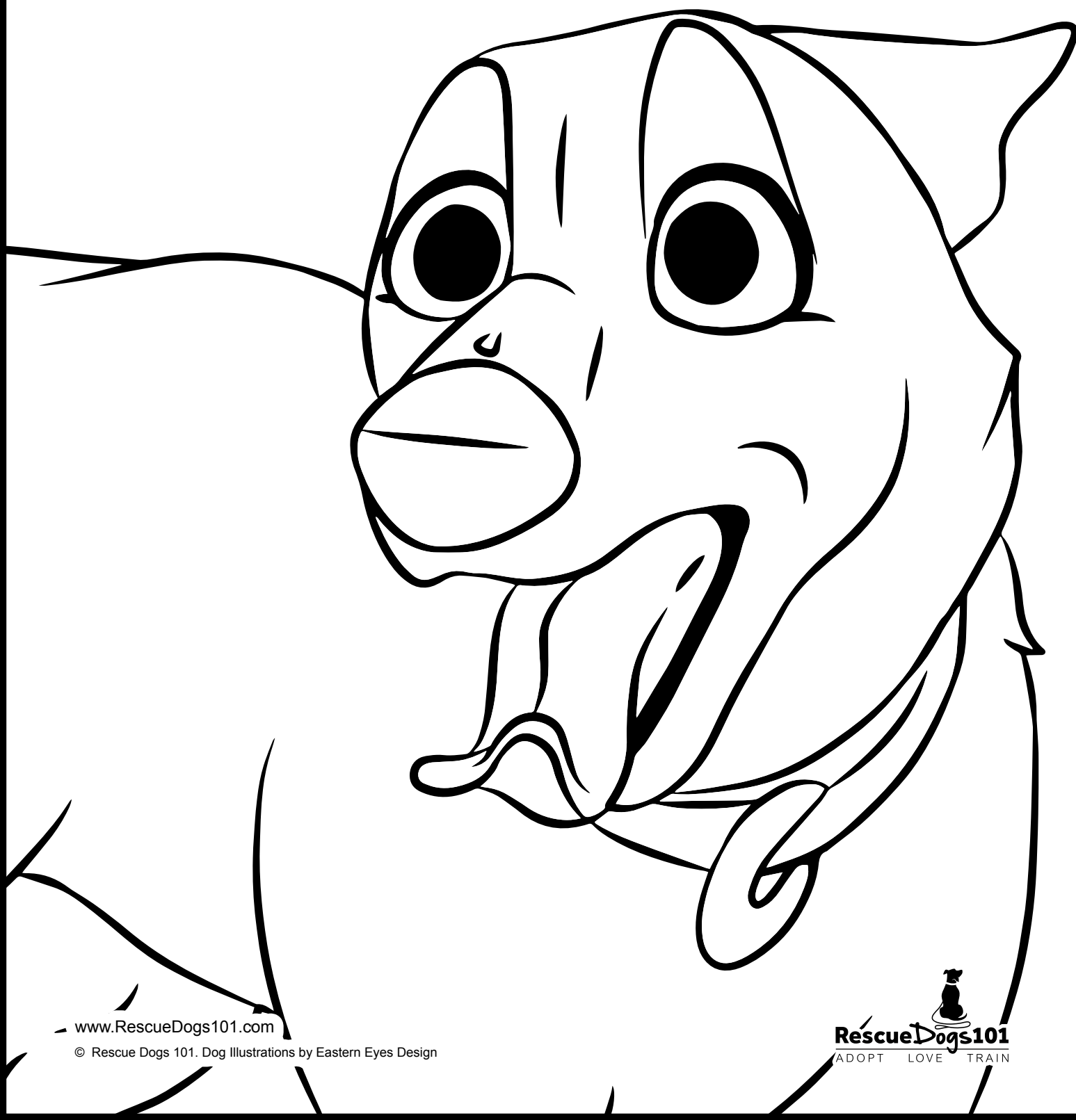
**Archie is having a bad day  
and is feeling AGGRESSIVE.**

Many things can trigger **aggression** in a dog, but usually it's **fear**. It's obvious with his **teeth showing**, but look at **his lips and nose**. They are curled back to show his big teeth. He is using his **body to lunge** and look scary, which usually helps keep away the scary thing. Unfortunately, Archie feels he will need to **bite** you if you come any closer.



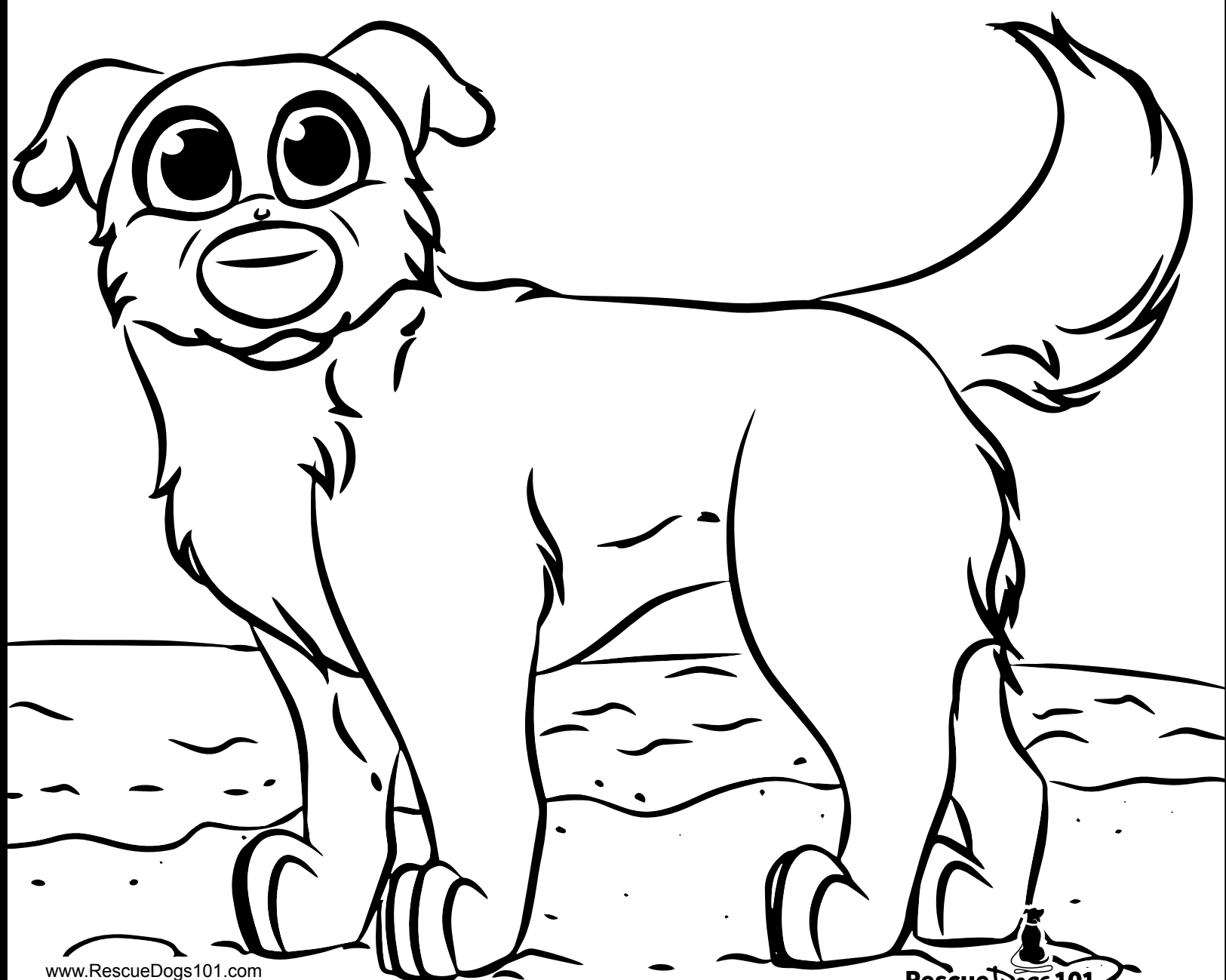
**Lola may look tired, but she's actually STRESSED!**

Yawning is a way for dogs to **release stress**. Combined with her **ears titled back** and turning her head away, she's announcing that she needs a break from the current situation.



## Goldy is being very ALERT.

She is observing her surroundings, making her **body very still**, perking her **ears high and alert**. She's not certain it's safe, so her **tail is stiff and wagging slowly**. If threatened in this state of alertness, she may become aggressive in order to protect herself.



**Life as a puppy can be SCARY.  
Ace is a little STRESSED today.**

His has **lowered and titled his ears** way back on his head.  
He feels safer by turning his **head turning away**, which results  
in seeing the **whites of his eyes**, called whale eye.

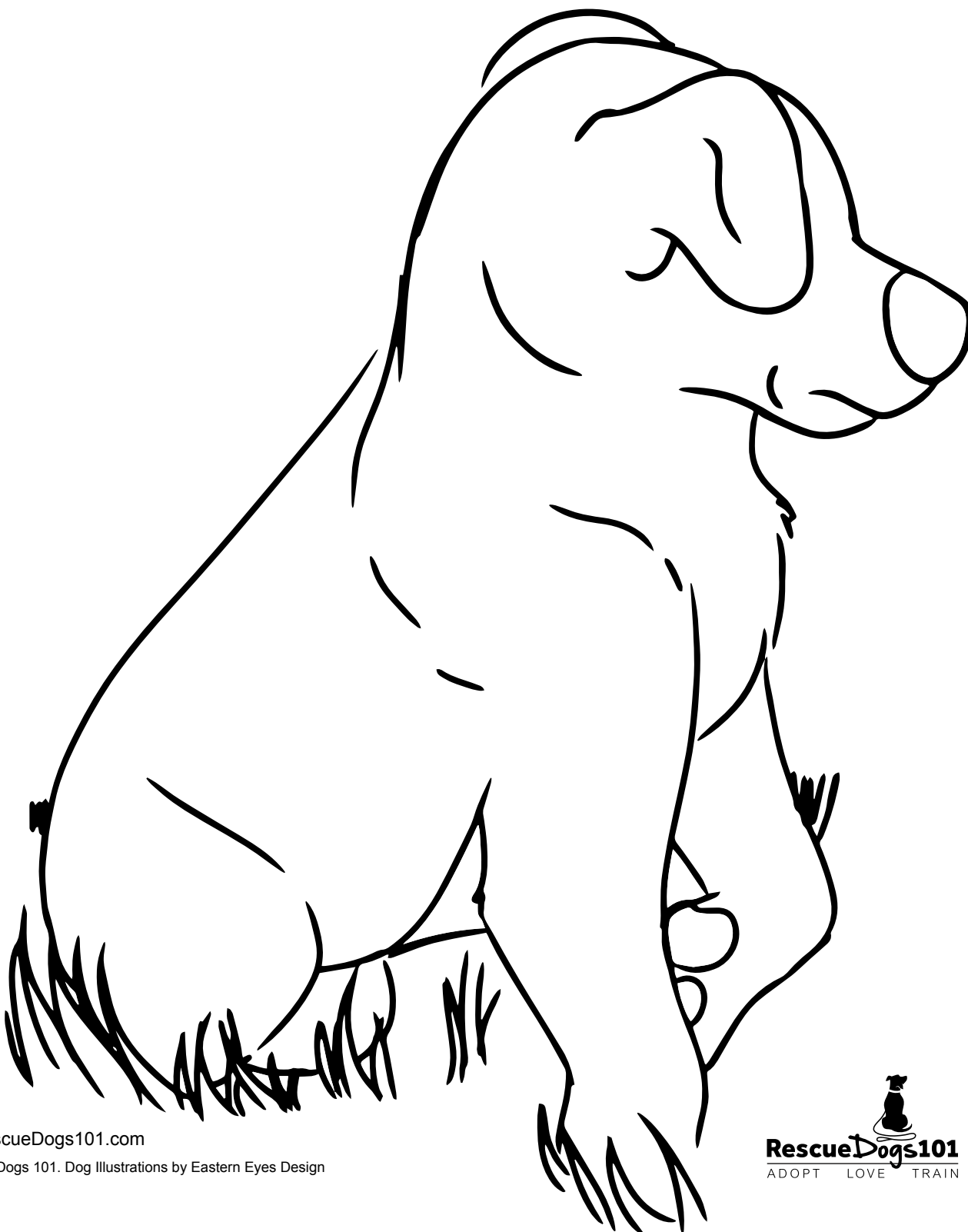


**The world is big and SCARY for a puppy like Coco.**

He is turning his **head away**, **lowering his ears** and **lifting a paw**.

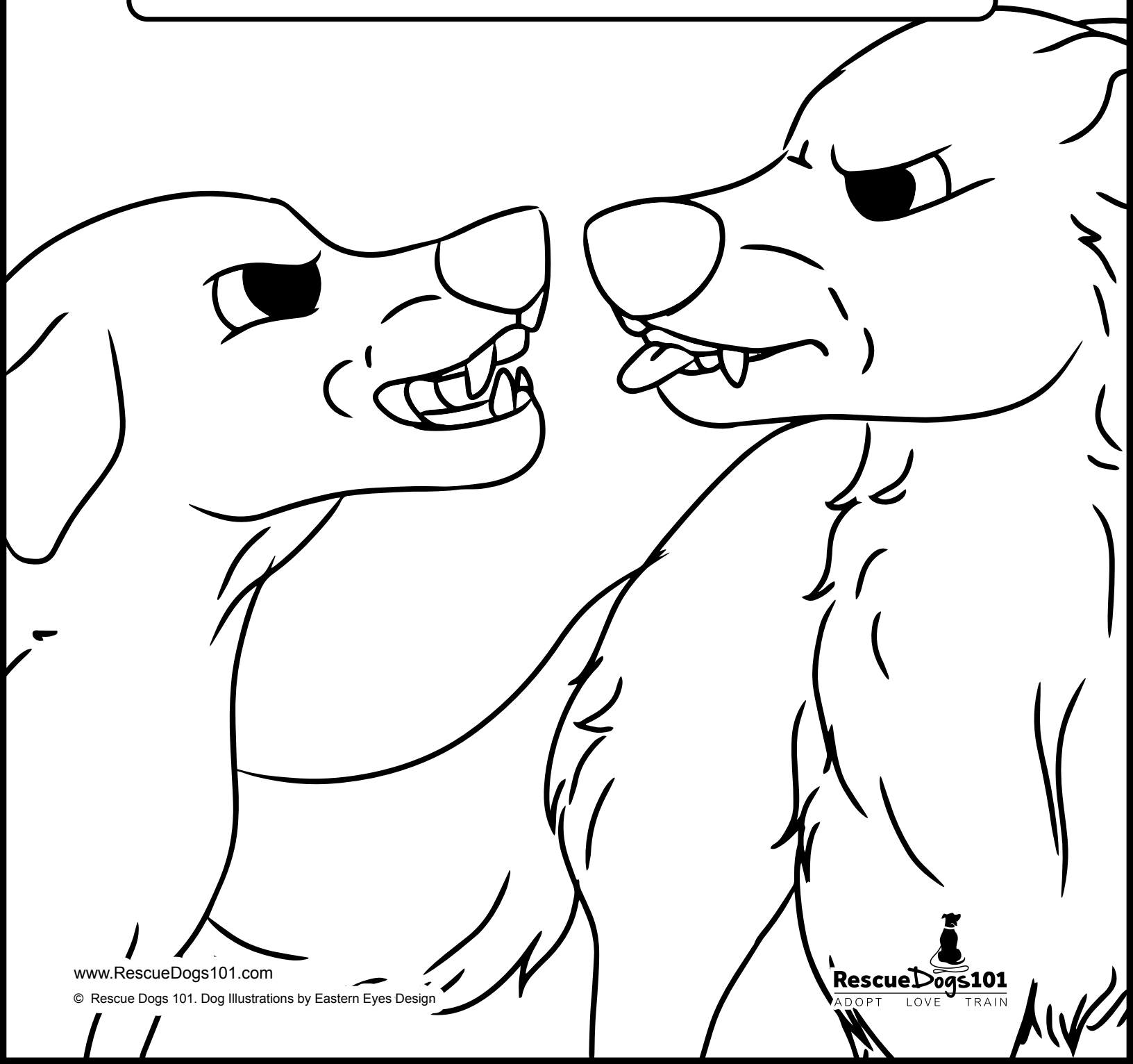
These are called **calming signals**.

All ways for a dog to tell us they are feeling scared and unsure.



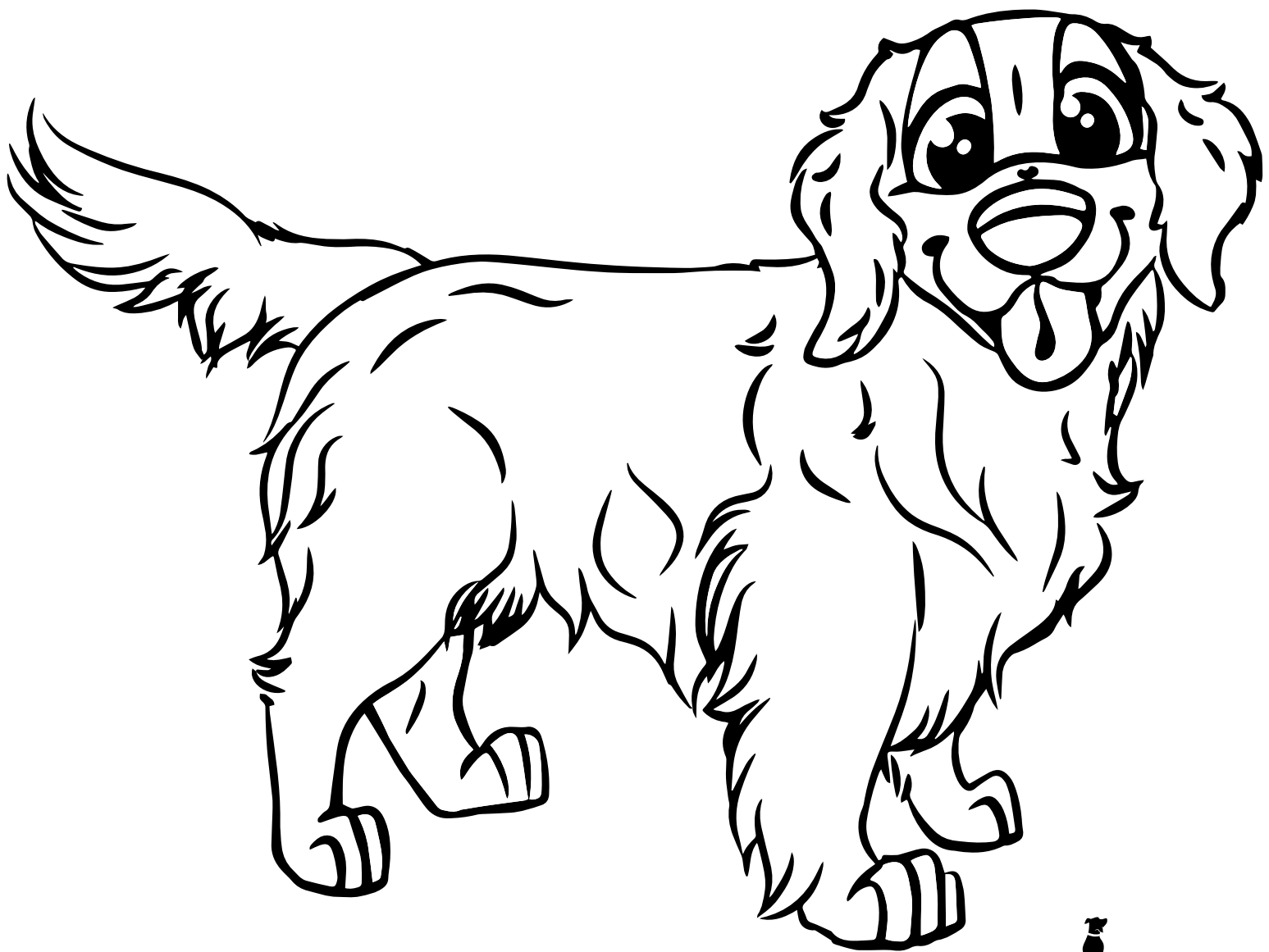
**Lily and Sadie are having an argument over who is in charge.**

Both are showing **AGGRESSION** by showing their **teeth**. Their **lips and noses are curled up** to show off their big teeth. Their **ears are back** and **chests are pushed forward** to appear bigger. These dogs are getting ready to fight and may bite a person if approached.



**Maggie is having a very HAPPY and RELAXED day.**

Her tail is wagging quickly. Her mouth is relaxed and appears to be smiling. Her eyes and ears are soft and relaxed. Life is good for Maggie.



**“Are you going to hurt me?”**

**Leo is a SCARED little puppy.**

He is so worried about what this person is going to do with him. His ears are far back and titled on his head and his eyebrows are rumped.



**“Please don’t touch me”, Jasper screamed.**

If dogs could talk, that’s what Jasper would be saying. He is very **SCARED** and **STRESSED**. His **body is stiff**, his eyes are so wide we see more white than brown. This is called **whale eye**. His **ears are way back on his head** and he is **turning his head** away, almost as if he’s ready to bite because this person isn’t listening to him.

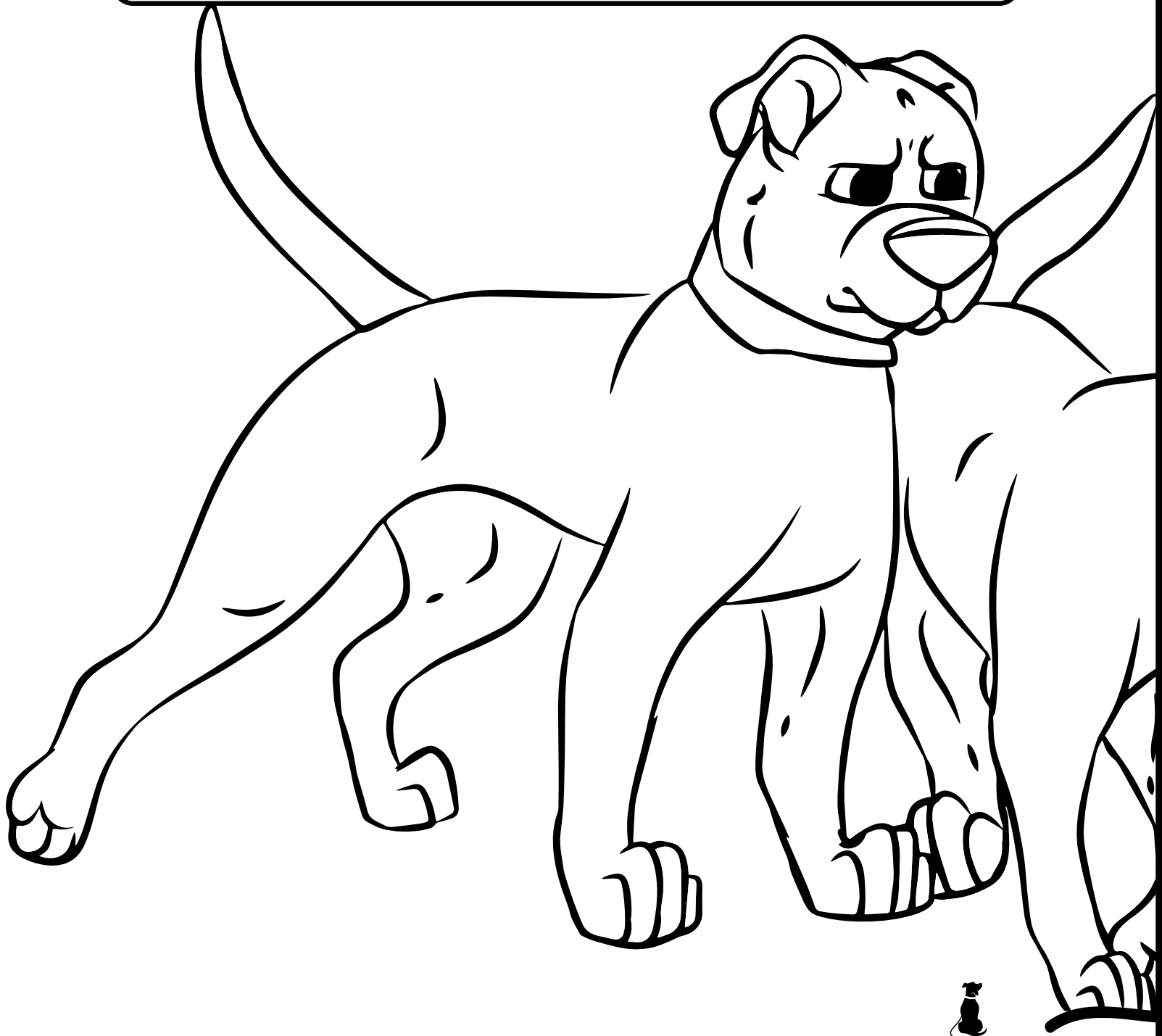


**Diesel is trying to CONTROL this play date by being DOMINANT over the other dogs.**

He is using his **shoulder to bump** into the other dog.

His **tail is stiff and straight up**. See Diesel's ears?

They are up **high and forward** on his head.

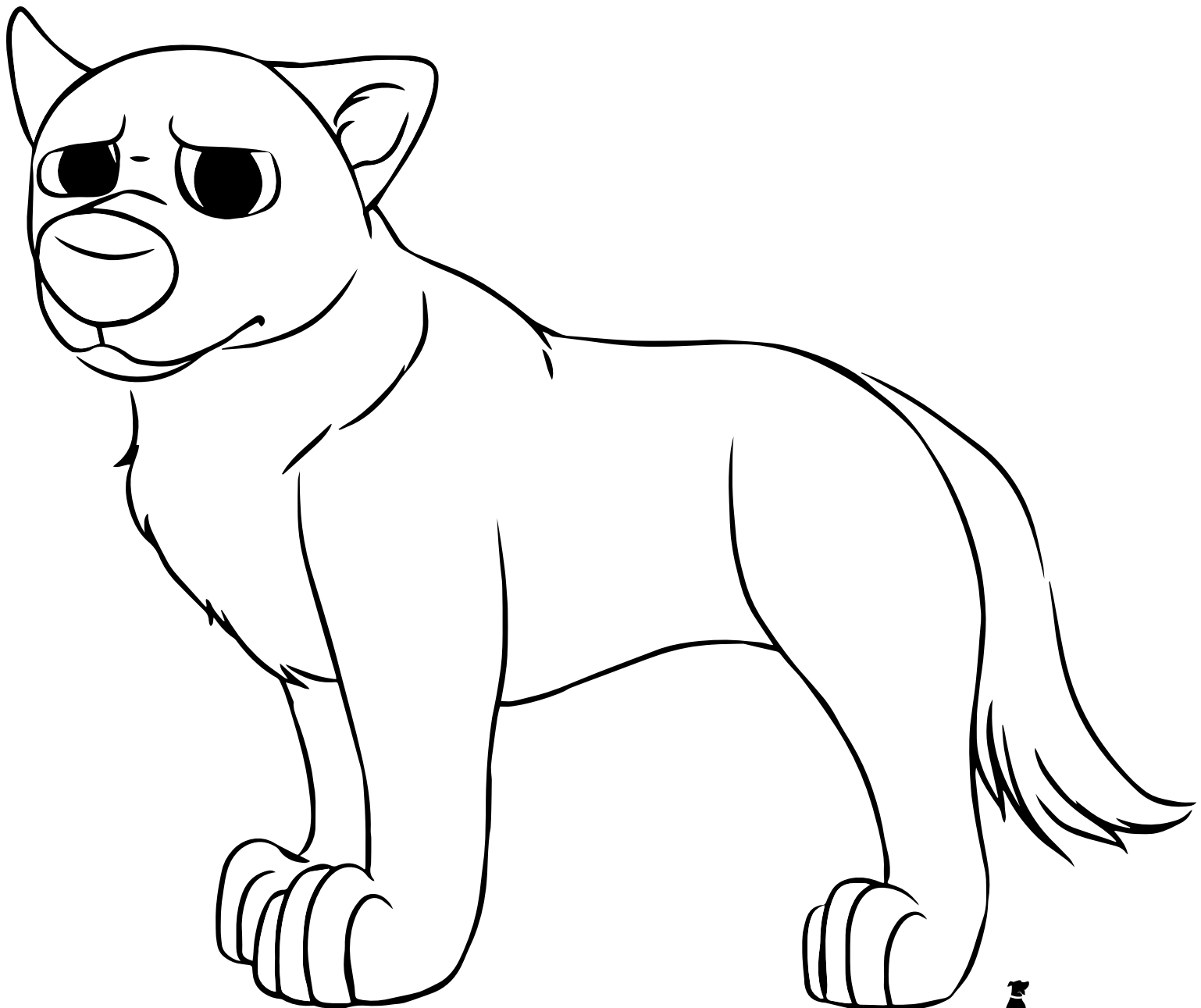


**Dixie is very SCARED, ALERT  
and maybe even feeling a little AGGRESSIVE.**

Her **body is very still** and she has moved her **ears backwards**.

It's important for us to observe the entire situation.

Dixie is very **unsure** about us approaching her. She may **feel threatened** and become aggressive in order to protect herself.



**Cinnamon is feeling pressured and STRESSED.**

She's giving us a **side-eye look**, they are wide and we can see the whites (**whale eye**). Cinnamon is **tilting her head and ears back** trying to tell us to please back away.



**Peanut does not like to be touched on her head.  
She is very SCARED and STRESSED.**

Peanut is so little and cute, you just want to pet and hug her! But many dogs don't like to be reach over top their heads. Do you see how Peanuts head is lowered with ears tilted backward? Peanut is avoiding eye contact. Her eyes are wide, showing the whites of her eyes (whale eye).

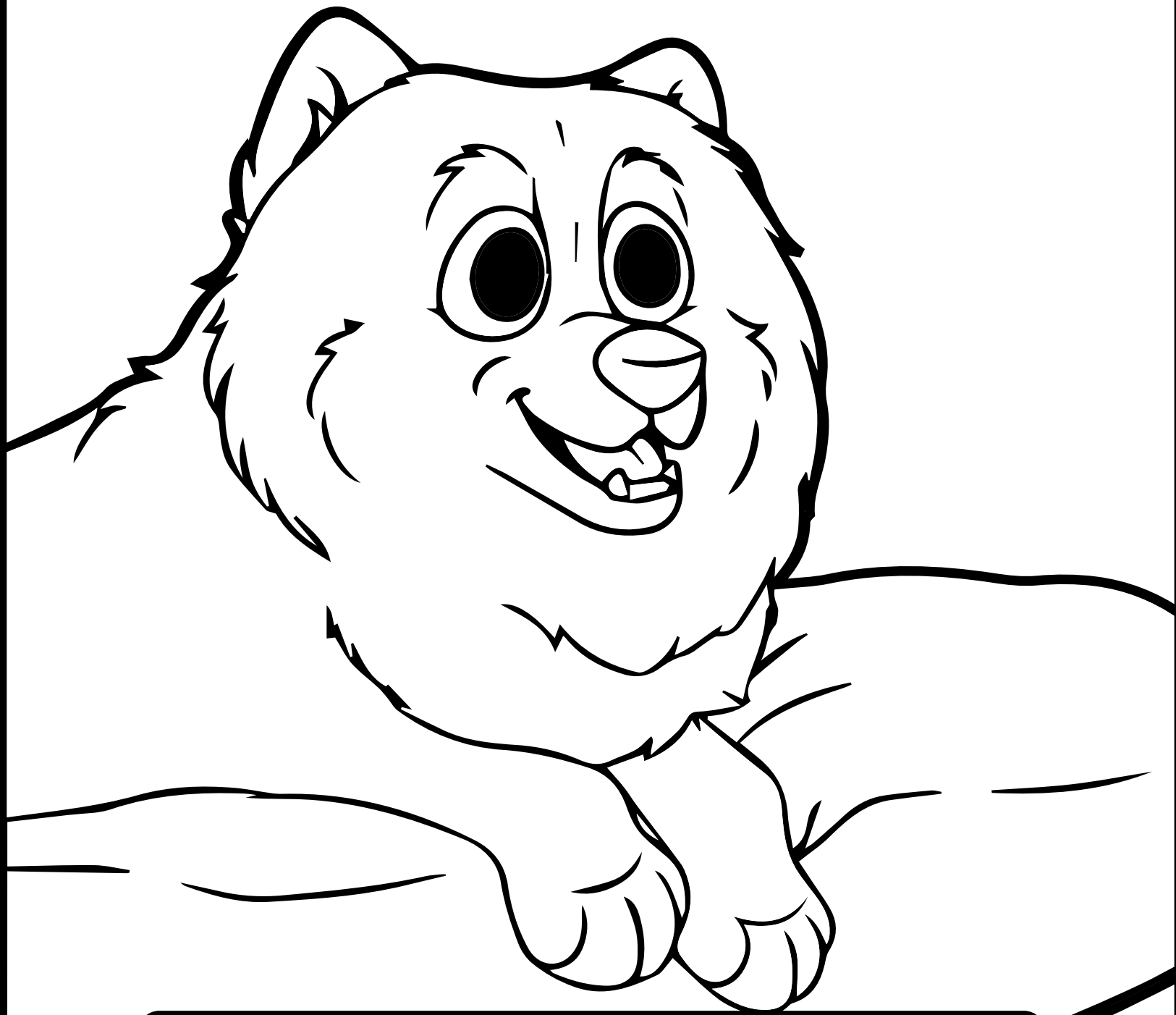


**Max is having a very  
HAPPY and RELAXED day.**

It's a beautiful day to lay down in the summer grass.

His eyes, ears and mouth are soft and relaxed,  
almost as if he is smiling at you!





**Fritz is having a great day and is excited to go play.**

He is **HAPPY** and **RELAXED** laying down on the couch.

He appears to be **smiling** with a **open and relaxed mouth**. His **eyes and ears are soft and relaxed** too. Are you ready to play with Fritz?

**Life is good for Libby. She is a very RELAXED today.**

Can you see how happy Libby is? She is laying down with her mouth relaxed as if she is smiling at us. Her eyes and ears are soft and relaxed too. Would you like to pet Libby?



**Trixie is having a very HAPPY and RELAXED day.**

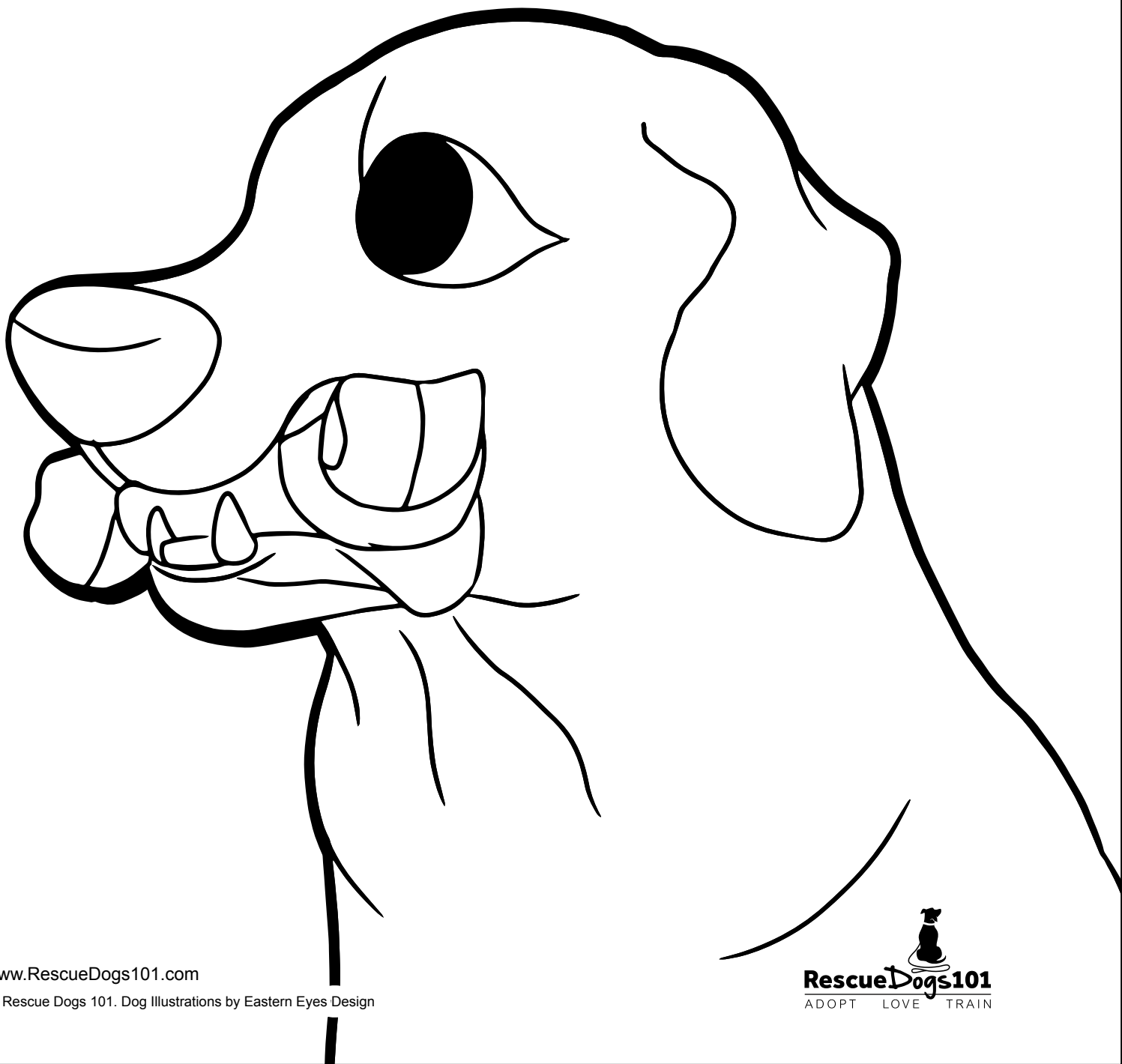
She is rolling in the grass with her **mouth open and relaxed.**

**Rolling over on her back** is a signal that she is feeling carefree.



**“STAY AWAY, this is MY bone!” Sincerely, Chester.**

It is very natural for dogs to want to protect their food. This is called **resource guarding or food aggression**. Never approach a dog while eating food or bone, even if they don't seem to care. Chester's **mouth is tightly gripping** his bone, He is **turning his head away** and we can see the **whites of his eyes**. His **ears are lowered and tilted back** and appear to be very **tense**.



**Sparky and Stormy are playing,  
but someone is trying to take control.**

Can you guess which dog is being **DOMINANT**?

Look for a **slow moving erect tail, pinned back ears, and  
hackles** slightly raised. Also notice the **paw on other dogs  
shoulder**. These are all signs of dominance.

