



## From the desk of...Lenny

Dear People,

As you probably noticed, you received this letter by email this year. That's because Eric and Lauren are "going green" (cheap) - which means that they're recycling everything, including ideas.



Well, another year is rapidly closing and I find myself again having stupid hats put on my head for pictures. I blame all of you for that. I can't believe the decade is almost done. They say time flies when you're having fun, but I guess it flies by no matter what. Hrmph.



2009 wasn't actually too bad, because Eric and Lauren finally started listening to me. Lauren spent the year watching me sleep, anticipating my hunger and need to go outside schedule, and letting me drag her around the neighborhood so I could sniff some trees. I think this was a wise career move for her and see a lot of advancement in her future. I plan to give her a 3.5 on her performance review. Her areas of opportunity are "giving me massages", "cooking me bacon" and "psychic linkage" so I can more efficiently communicate my needs and displeasure to her at any given moment.

Eric and Lauren didn't do much traveling this year- so I only got dumped off at Auntie Donna's (*NOTE: not my real aunt- lady they pay to watch me mope*) a couple of times. They did go to Denver and Albuquerque a few times which is ok, I guess, if you're into dry weather, mountains and family. Whatever.

In May, they went to Albuquerque for the Alan Sims Spring Break Culinary Tour. It was very educational. They got to see many parts of the city they'd never seen before, mostly because Alan kept falling asleep in the car while he was giving directions. They also learned that "Albuquerque" is Spanish for "Where the hell is that ice cream place and why do we keep driving by the hospital?"



In August they went to Denver for Lauren's brother's wedding. Not too much to report, lots of family and gin in the mountains. Lauren's family finally got to witness Eric's bizarre and slightly disturbing karaoke stylings. I was "Living on a Prayer" that he would just stop.

Meanwhile, they've been exploring LA and the surrounding islands more. A favorite passtime is going to see the latest hot new releases from 1949 and searching out locations from noir classics. The twin highlights of their year were seeing a double feature of the *The Third Man* and *Night and the City* at the Billy Wilder Theatre and finding the Dietrichson house featured in *Double Indemnity*- dorky even by Robert Osborne's standards.

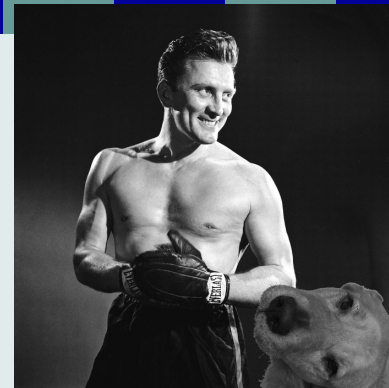


Eric's year seemed to revolve entirely around some old guy named Kirk Douglas. His name comes up a lot. Apparently Eric spends the day at this guy's theatre fiddling with the air conditioning and scaring crows off the roof. One month out of the year they do this thing called Douglas Plus, where he does all the same stuff, but there's a talkback afterwards.

In March, Kirk Douglas did a one-man show called *Before I Forget* and a bunch of rich white people and famous people showed up. It was very inspiring. If a 92 year old man with a speech impediment can do it, certainly a 9 year old dog who can't speak at all should be able to. So, I give you: *I Forgot Who You Were the Second You Left the Room*. By Lenny Benneé. Here's what I've got so far:



*Lights up on the living room of a small house in Culver City Adjacent. Half the popcorn ceiling has been scraped off. The other half hangs on limply waiting for Eric to get off his ass and finish the project. Lenny, a dog, lies on the ground with his face on the floor. Eric and Lauren, people, stand next to him looking worried. A table sits in the corner. Linda, the crazy lady who lives next door, enters from stage left.*



Linda: Awwww, is that your dog? He's adorable. What's his name?

Eric: Uhm, yeah, thanks, his name's Lenny

Linda: Is he friendly?

Lauren: He doesn't like strange people...er...strangers.

Linda: Oh, I'm good with dogs (*bends down, affects high pitched "talking to a moron" voice*) Hi Leh-nneeeee! Are you a good boy?

Lenny: (*lifts chin from ground*) Bark bark bark bark bark

Linda: Ooooh, he's shy (*offers hand to Lenny to smell*) Hi Leh-nneeee, nice to meet you

Lenny: Grrrrrr, bark bark bark bark bark

Linda: Well, see you later

*Linda exits stage right. Time passes, scene is the same. Linda enters again from stage left.*

Linda: Hi Leh-nneeee! Remember me? (*bends over to pet Lenny's head*)

Lenny: (*not raising head from ground*) Grrr bark bark bark bark bark

Linda: Wait, I've got something (*offers treat*) Here you go Leh-nneeeee

Lenny (*eating treat*): Grrr bark bark bark bark bark

*Lenny gets up off floor and goes to lay down under the table. Eric and Lauren laugh nervously.*

Linda: Oh Leh-nneeee, don't you remember me?

Lenny: (*from under the table*) Grrrr...

*Linda looks up at Eric and Lauren with pity and contempt*

Lauren (*attempting to explain*): He's shy.

Eric (*attempting to regain moral high ground*): We rescued him from the pound!

*Linda exits stage right. Months pass. Seasons change. Linda enters stage left.*

Linda: Hi Leh-nneeee!

Lenny: Bark bark bark bark bark bark bark

Linda: (*hurt*) You remember me Leh-nnee...

Lenny: Bark bark bark bark bark bark bark



Linda: You see me everyday...

Lenny: Bark bark bark bark bark bark bark

Linda: I gave you a treat...

Lenny: Bark bark bark bark bark bark bark

Linda: I bought you that squeaky toy last Christmas...

Lenny: Bark bark bark bark bark bark bark

*Eric and Lauren laugh, Lauren rubs Lenny's head. Linda exits. Lenny lies back down, puts chin on ground. Time passes. A siren is heard in the distance.*

Lenny: (not raising head from floor) Bark bark bark bark bark bark

*Time passes. Linda enters again stage left.*

Lenny: Bark bark bark bark bark bark bark bark

Linda (*hurt, disappointed*): Leh-nee-ee, you know me.

Lenny: Bark bark bark bark bark bark bark.

Eric: Did I mention we got him at the pound?

*Linda exits, shaking her head, Eric and Lauren exit, Lenny sits watches them leave, confused.*

Lenny (*howling forlornly as all his chums leave, he's abandoned again, typical*): Aaaaoooooooooooo! Aaaaoooooooooooooooo!

*Curtain.*

I'm hoping I can get as many of the famous to see this as Kirk did. And not just those D-listers like the dude who played Beethoven or Air Bud. I'm holding out for one of Paris Hilton's dogs or maybe Hooch. He always brings the party.

Anyhoo, have a great holiday and all that crap. If you live in Denver or Albuquerque, then you'll probably see me this year. If not, well, you're out of luck- unless you want to come to LA. I'm pretty sure there are some great hotels you can stay at (or, I hear Scott and Heidi just bought a house).

Happy and Merry whatever you're celebrating this year,

Lenny

