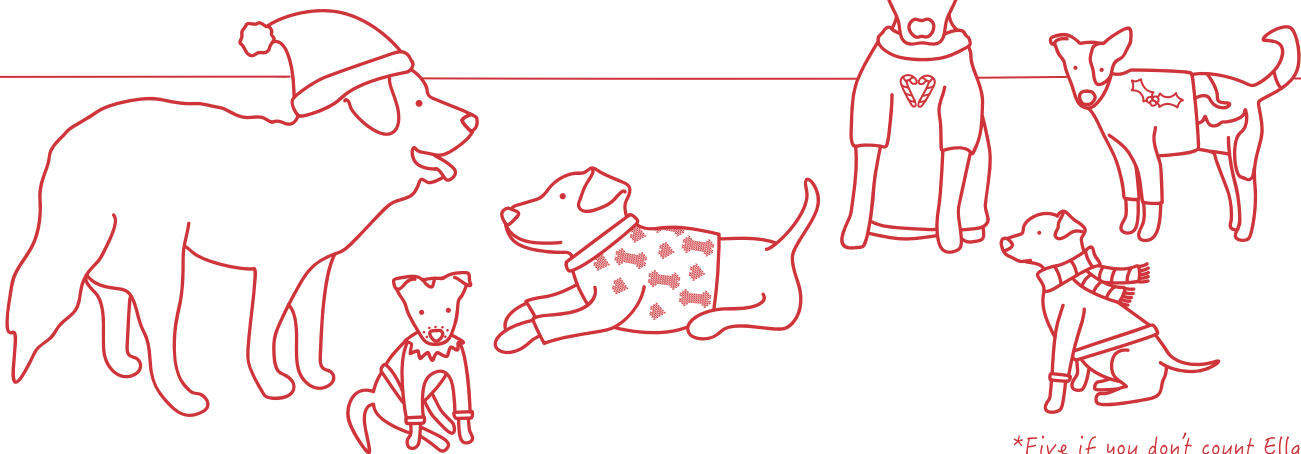


Ella

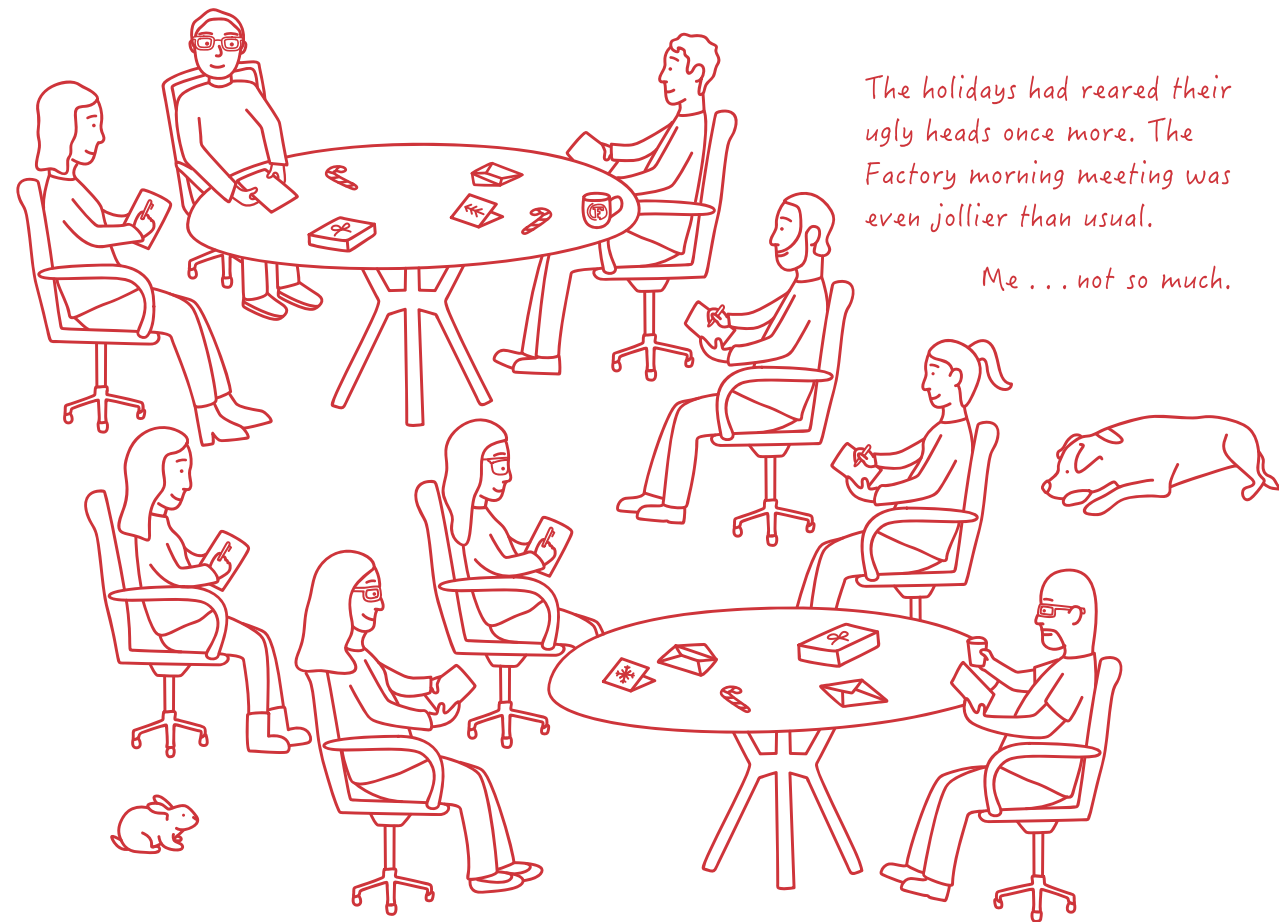
and the Six* Dogs of Christmas



*Five if you don't count Ella

Please note: Characters in this story are NOT shown following responsible social distancing or masking protocols. Because they're cartoon characters.

© 2020 Factory Detroit, Inc.

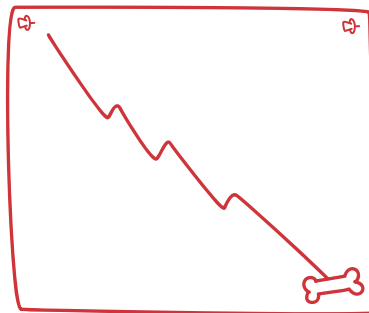
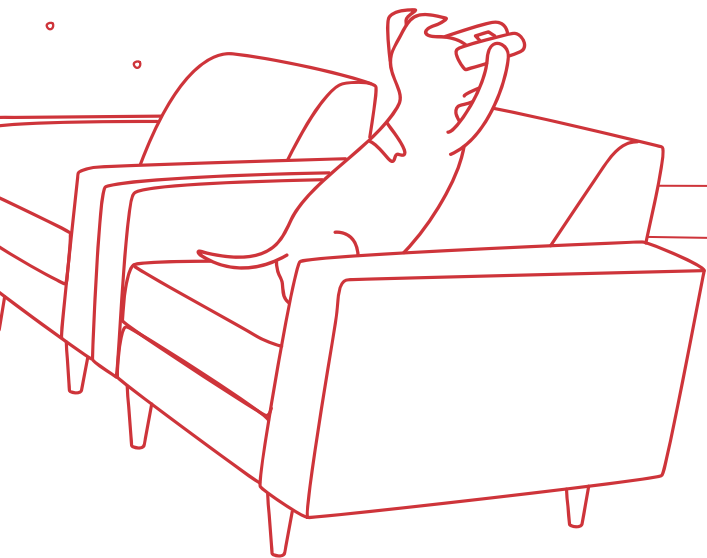


The holidays had reared their ugly heads once more. The Factory morning meeting was even jollier than usual.

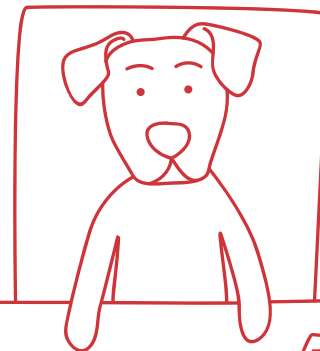
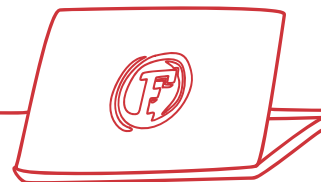
Me . . . not so much.

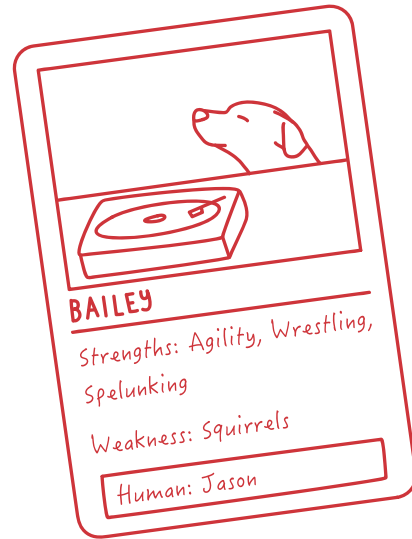
You see, our tree was up and the Bald Guy had placed a giant cookie in the shape of a star way at the top. And way out of my reach.

Oh how I despise him . . . when he isn't feeding me!



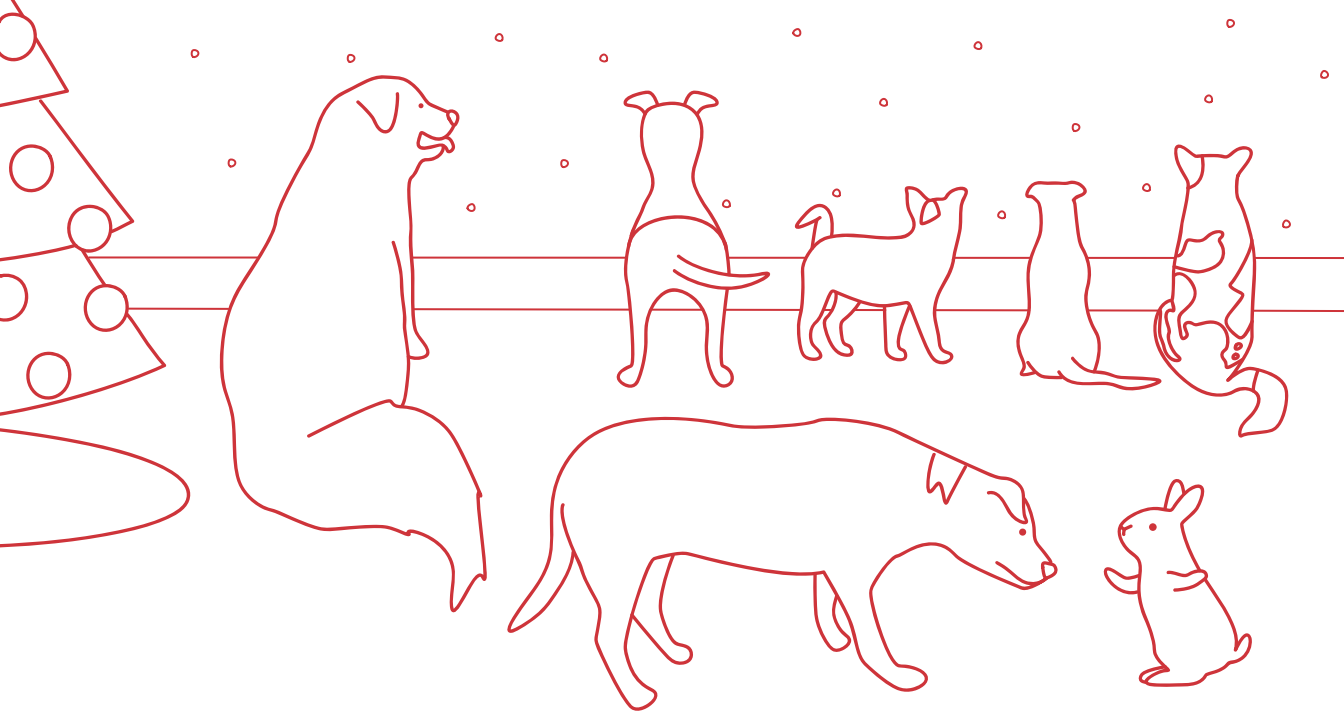
All I could think about every day was that cookie staring down at me. Taunting me. Doesn't the Bald Guy know there are hungry dogs out there? Heck, there's a hungry dog right in here.



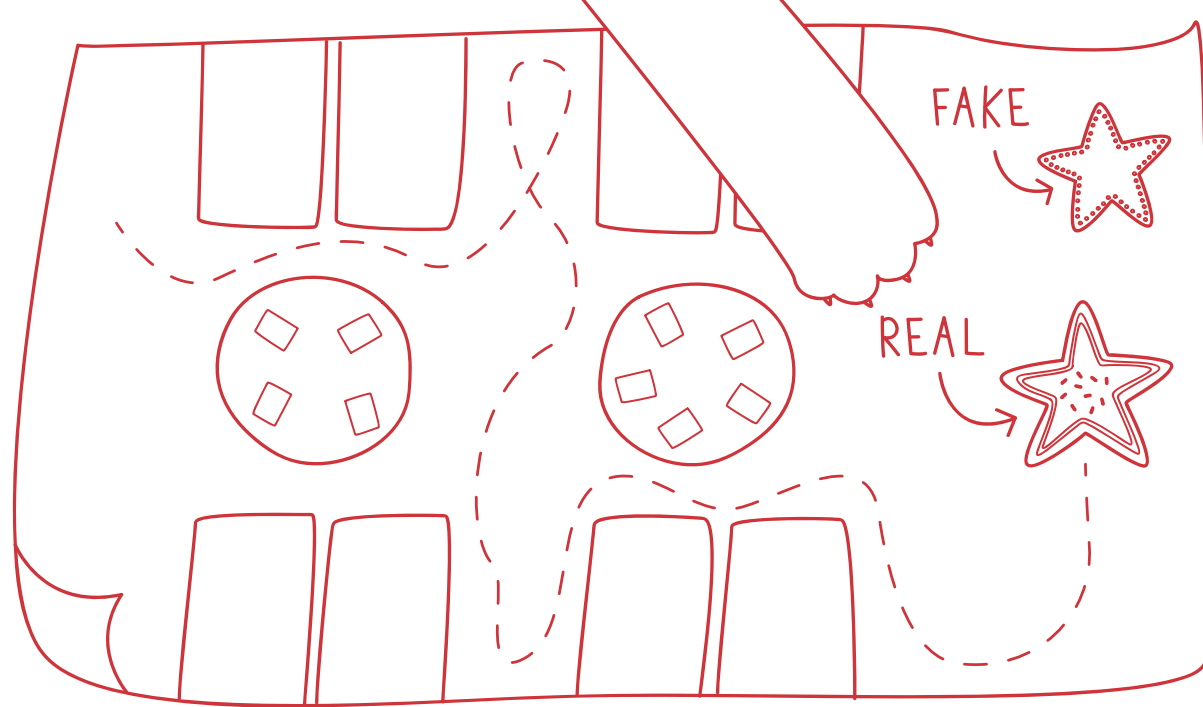


So, I brought together my team. Rosey, everybody loves Rosey. Lady, who's got the biggest bark for the smallest dog. Bailey, the hipster.

Rudy, poor, misunderstood Rudy. And Hajduk The Great. I think that's for "Great Pyrenees," but it might just be "Great Big." And me, of course. Chief Canine Officer.



Oh yeah, there was Judy, too. She's not on my team, but she was visiting the office. I asked if she wanted to help. She said, "Not my holiday. Catch me when Easter rolls around." And people wonder why I hate rabbits!



We put our heads together and came up with a plan. It was simple but daring. Distract the others, grab the cookie, swap in a plastic chew toy . . . and those dummies, I mean my good friends, would be none the wiser.



But first, a walk.



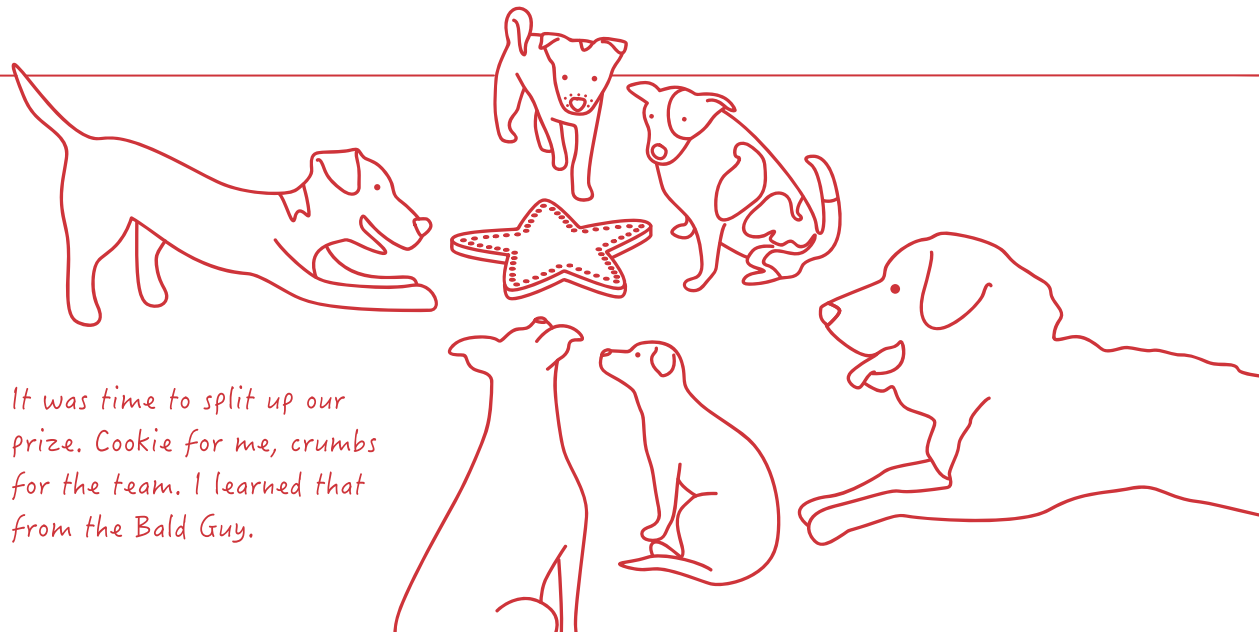
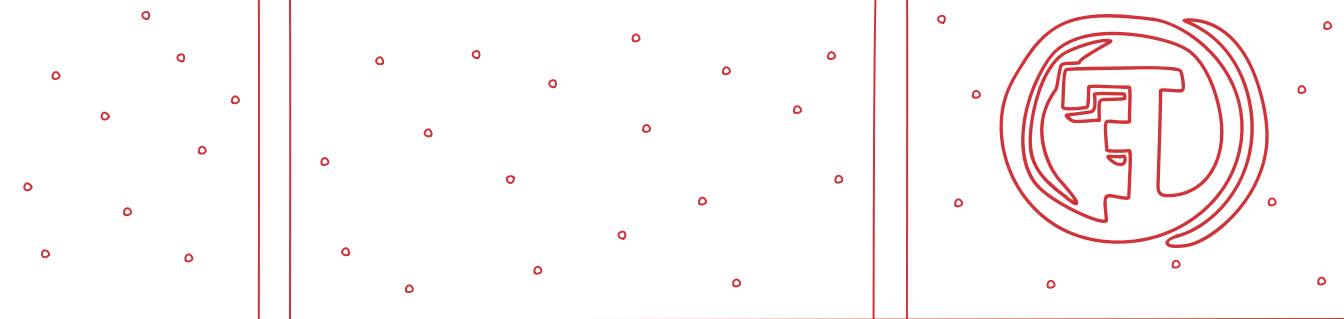
Then some recreation time.

Finally it was time for the heist.

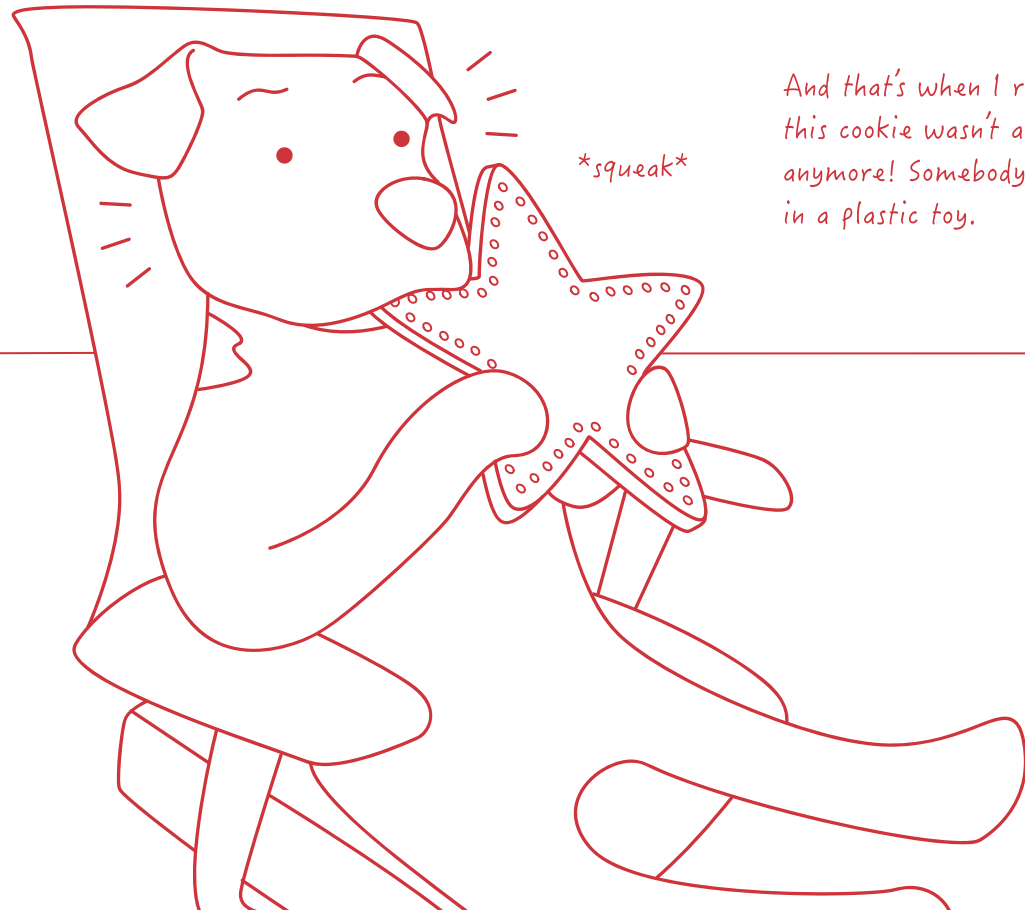
The Great Christmas Ornament
Caper Of Twenty Twenty.



Okay, there was a casualty. And the Bald Guy wasn't happy. But you
can always get another tree.

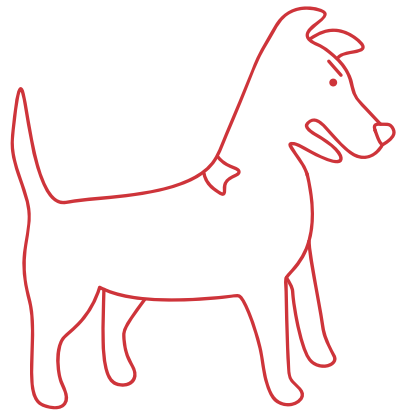


It was time to split up our prize. Cookie for me, crumbs for the team. I learned that from the Bald Guy.



squeak

And that's when I realized . . . this cookie wasn't a cookie anymore! Somebody had swapped in a plastic toy.

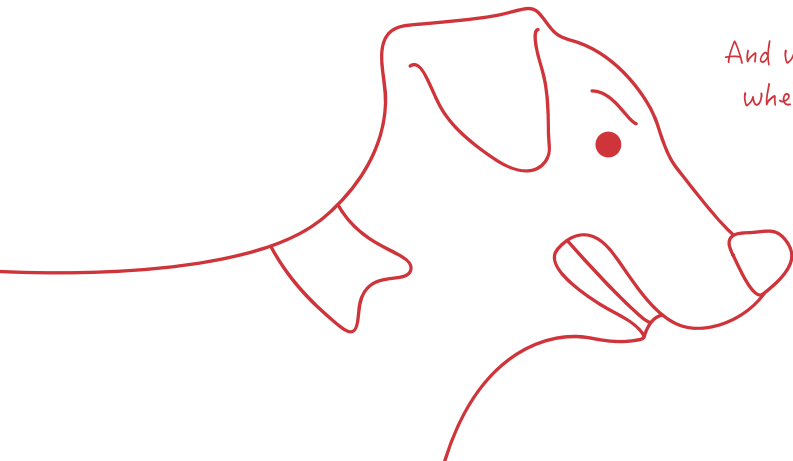


Judy!



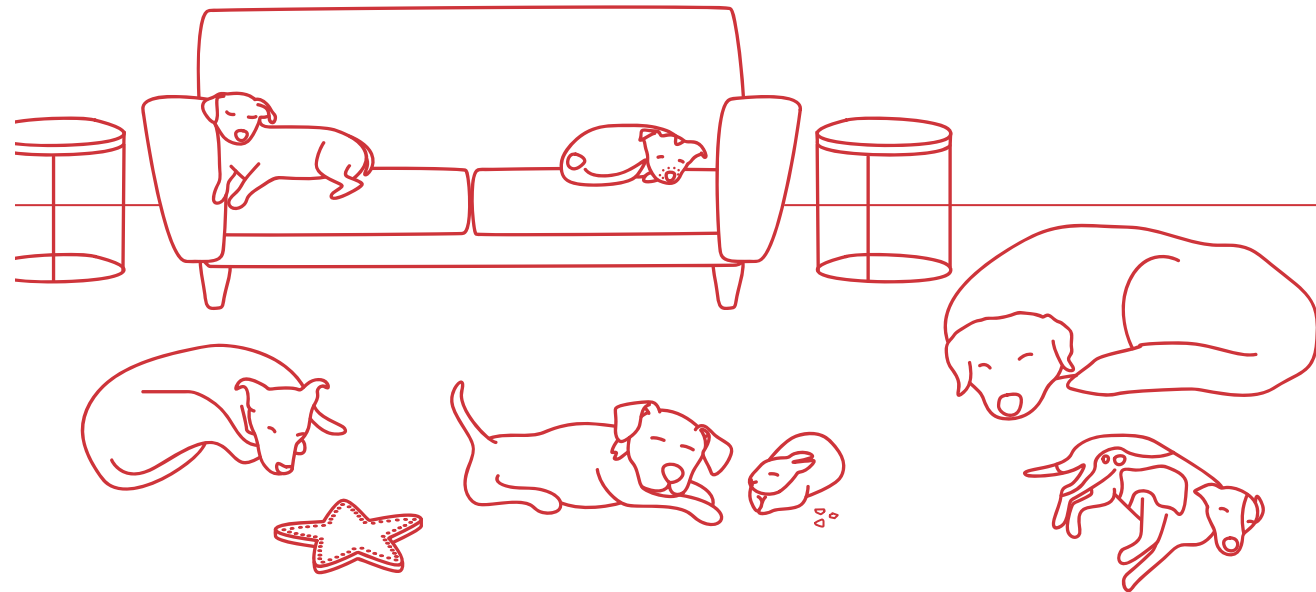
Well played, my rabbit nemesis.

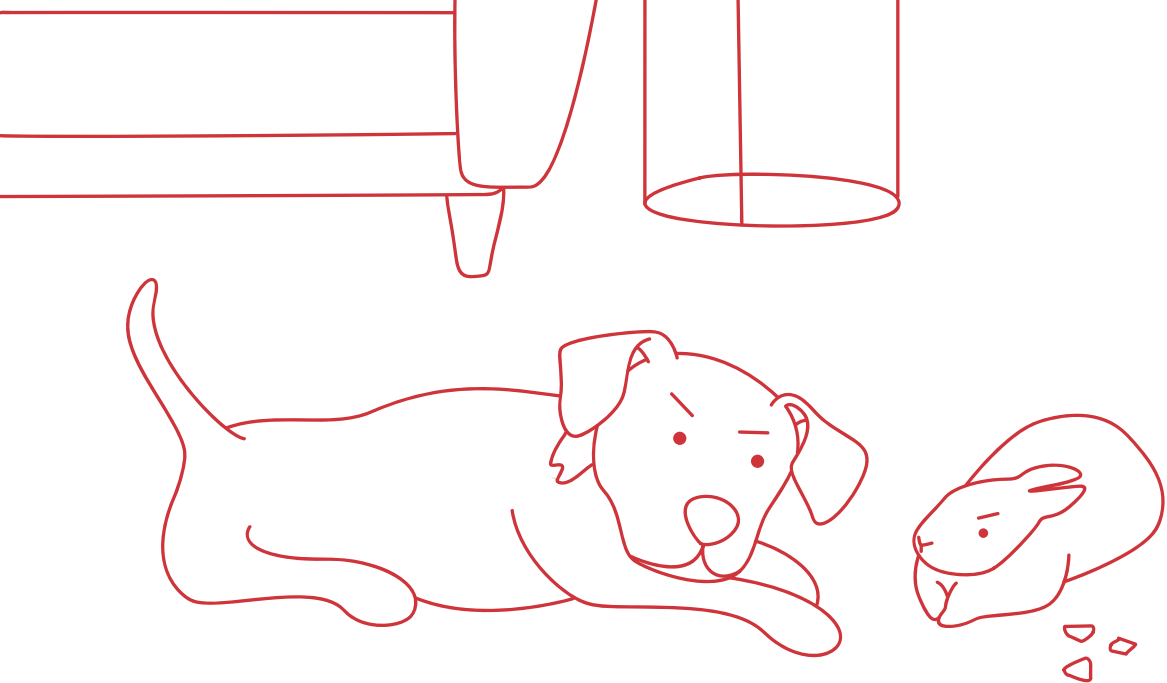
And we'll most definitely catch you . . .
when Easter rolls around.



So, there I was. No tree. No cookie. One seriously angry Bald Guy. Just
a bunch of dogs, a plastic chew toy and an important lesson in life:

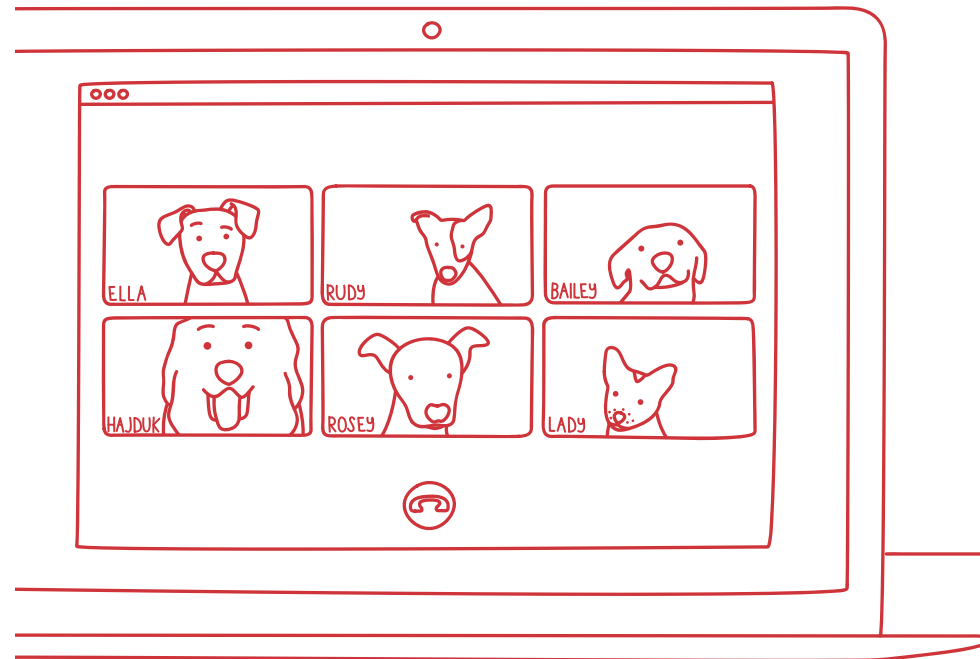
This time of year, you've got to keep your friends close . . .





... and hungry rabbits even closer.

the end



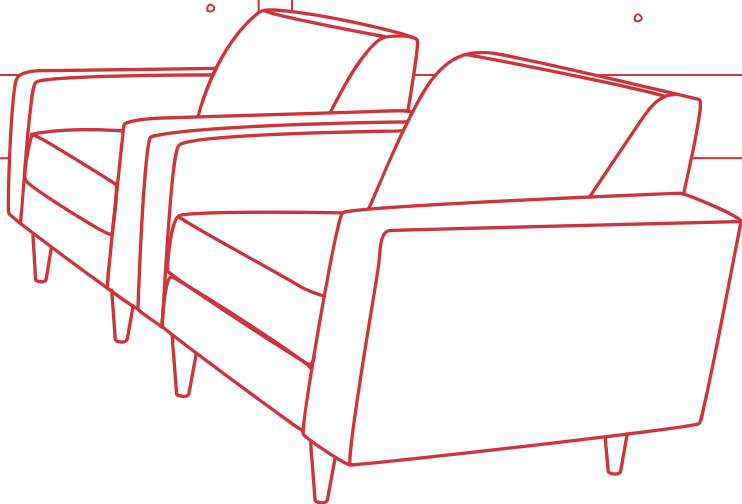
Season's Greetings from all
the team at Factory:

Mark Lantz
Izabela Skonieczka
Jason Barthlow
John Bergholz
Lugene Bernard
Rob Johnston
Michelle McMahon
Shana Preuett
Tiffany Vedula
Greg Sieck
and Ella Lantz





FACTORY



illustrations by tiffany vedua