Look, Mommy! It's a Panda!

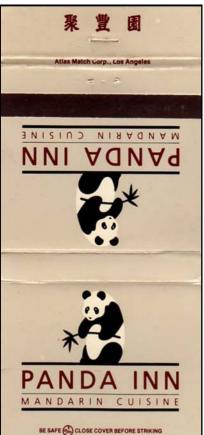
Thinking about a new small category? Looking for something just so cute and cuddly you could scream? Something that's just so adorable and lovable you just can't stand it? Something with big cutesy, wootesy dark, 'come-hither' eyes? Well....you can forget pandas! They're vicious killers! Oh, yes. I know! Sure, they *look* cute, but behind that fuzzy exterior...

Pandas area generally solitary animals, even avoiding contact with others of its kind [anti-social psychopaths]. In the event of accidental meetings, the panda will show its aggression by lowering its head and staring at its opponent's eyes. The loser in this contest will put its head between its front legs and often hind its eye-patches with its paws. Should push come to shove, pandas show their [uncontrollable] anger by swiping with a paw [equipped with deadly claws], or by sounding a low-pitched growl or bark. 99% of the panda diet is bamboo [the other 1% consists of unsuspecting people]. "A panda in Pingwu County killed some sheep that belonged to a local farmer, but it did not eat them." [senseless killing!] [http://www.wwfchina.org/] "Ling-Ling, the female giant panda at the National Zoo in Washington, D.C., was attacked by a male panda borrowed from the London Zoo to mate with her." [shocking domestic violence!] [http://www.allbusiness.com/professional-scientific/scientific-research/324684-1.html]

Still have a yen [Chinese pun!] to collect these bloodthirsty predators? Hey, far be it for me to judge your collecting tastes! I suggest that you look at Chinese Restaurants. That's the almost lone source for Panda pics, although you might see one or two pictured on Zoo covers, and a few on more recent RMS







convention issues by various collectors..

Although I don't collect these murderous beasts. myself $\int I$ 'm sensitive], the late Mary Anne Pertuis. LA. reported having 285 Panda covers April 1990. There may well be larger, unreported collections now, however.

[Note: I'm not a member of the Huggable Bears Club!]