

Psycho Kitty? Understanding Your Cat's Crazy Behavior

Pam Johnson-Bennett

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In reading about the bizarre cat behavior cases that Pam Johnson Bennett has successfully handled, one has to be impressed with her insight into the feline world. Pam proves over and over again that a cat's bad habits can be changed. Cats are affected by everything that goes on inside and sometimes outside a home. Their bad habits can sometimes be resolved by changing such things as moving the litter box out of the room where the cat eats. Cats suffer anxiety attacks when another cat comes into their yard. Regular play time with interactive toys can change a cat into a more playful and loving pet. A cat was never meant to live its life on the floor. They love high places.

Some of Johnson-Bennett's observations are simply common sense, but many go beyond that. For example, cats that seem to want to nurse were probably taken from their litter too early and can be weaned from this "wool sucking." This habit can be compared to the obsessive-compulsive disorder in humans. Veterinarians have prescribed Prozac and Elavil, although just a simple change in routine or diet might help the cat through these difficult times.

Psycho Kitty is a must-read for anyone whose pet is suffering behavioral problems and is written by a well-qualified author (Johnson-Bennett works on a referral basis by veterinarians in her area and makes house calls). Her stories about some of her extraordinary cases and their happy endings should encourage anyone to read this book.

PAT WOLFF (July / August 1998)

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