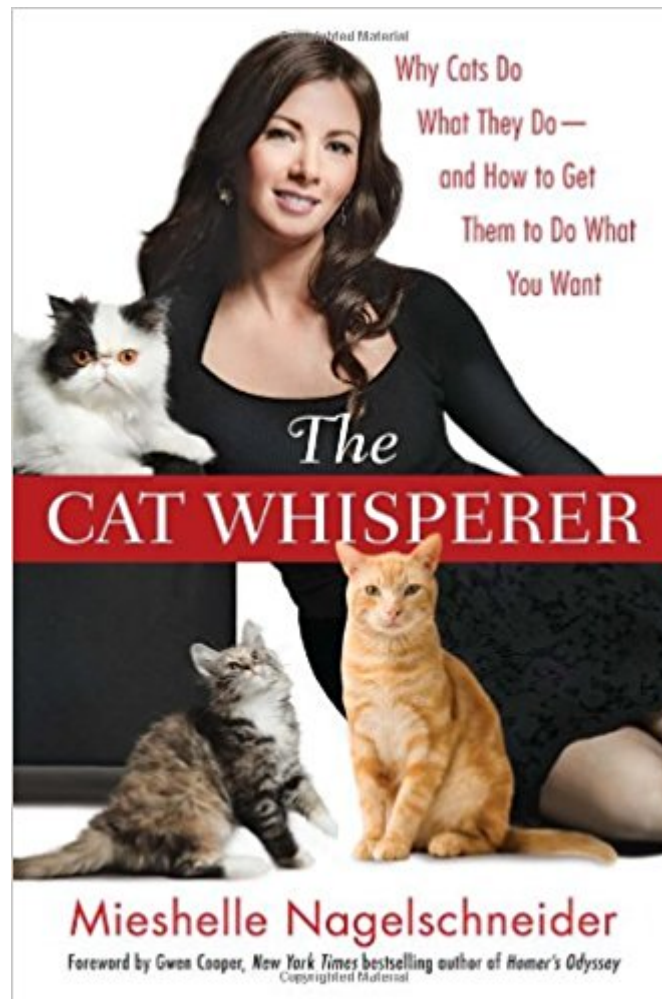


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The Cat Whisperer: Why Cats Do What They Do--and How To Get Them To Do What You Want



Synopsis

Who says you can't train a cat? Just when you thought you had reached the end of your ball of twine, one of America's most popular cat behaviorists comes to the rescue of perplexed cat owners everywhere, providing practical and effective strategies for solving every feline behavior problem imaginable—from litter box issues to scratching, spraying, biting, and beyond. Cat Whisperer Mieshelle Nagelschneider has been helping people deal with these dilemmas for two decades, achieving a near-perfect success rate. Central to her approach is a keen understanding of the unique way cats see the world—their need for safety and security, their acute territoriality, and their insatiable desire to catch and kill prey. Her proven C.A.T. cat behavior modification plan is a commonsense course of action that can be specifically tailored to your cat in the context of its behavior problems and its particular household environment. Easy-to-implement solutions help transform even the most anxiety-riddled companions into confident, gregarious, and relaxed cats who live longer, happier, and healthier lives. Inside you'll discover how to harness the power of friendly pheromones to improve your cat's appetite, exploration, grooming, and play where, when, and how to create a litter box environment that will provide ease of access and reduce anxiety for you and your cat how to end aggression in multiple-cat households and help your cats coexist peacefully. Is it impossible to train a cat? Not anymore! Your days of yelling and tearing your hair out in the wake of the latest household cat-astrophe are over. In this fascinating and indispensable book, the Cat Whisperer takes you inside the mind of a feline to explain why members of one of the world's most inscrutable species act the way they do—and how you can convince them to change their behaviors for the sake of your peace of mind . . . and theirs. Praise for The Cat Whisperer "I wish I had read The Cat Whisperer before I started filming Must Love Cats. The cats would have liked me a lot more." —John Fulton, host of Animal Planet's Must Love Cats "Mieshelle Nagelschneider is a wizard at demystifying cat behavior and providing easy-to-follow steps for solving vexing problems. I dog-eared (or should I say cat-eared) so many pages for later reference that my book doesn't want to close. Living with six demanding cats in a small house, I wish I'd had this excellent guide years ago." —Bob Tarte, author of Kitty Cornered, Enslaved by Ducks, and Foul Weather "The reason people are so mesmerized by house cats is because they are truly miniature versions of lions, tigers, and leopards. In her book The Cat Whisperer, Mieshelle Nagelschneider explains the behavior of the house cat in an unprecedented and most accessible way, offering unique insight into the often misunderstood companion animal that is as wild as we have become civilized." —Jordan Carlton Schaul, Ph.D., contributing editor, National Geographic, and curator, Orange County Zoo "Pet

owners despairing of getting their cats to behave will find new hope in this comprehensive guide. . . . This book more than meets Nagelschneider's goal of guiding owners to the strategies for behavioral and environmental change needed to address issues such as urination outside the litter box and aggressiveness. • Publishers Weekly

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Customer Reviews

This review is based on a pre-publication copy: some illustrations are missing, incomplete "Endnotes" (footnotes + references), Index in progress, ... Page numbers may change. This is an uneven book. If based on just the first part, I wouldn't recommend it, maybe even recommend against it. However, starting around page 130, the book becomes more and more worth reading, and by page 200 the density of useful advice is such that I would definitely recommend if your problem falls within the focus of this book (details follow). Litter box and spraying issues dominate the book. This is not surprising because this is what is most likely to be serious enough to drive people to hire a professional behaviorist.* What is surprising is the paucity of useful anecdotes I would have expected the author to have acquired during such consultations. The result is prescriptive advice on these topics that doesn't go much beyond what one is likely to have encountered in run-of-the-mill books on cat care. And that advice is repetitive. It isn't until late in the book that I encountered non-trivial treatments of other issues. The book's coverage is also heavily oriented to the interactions of cats within a household.** The author lives in a household with six cats and three people and many of her accounts seem to be of households with more cats than

people. My experience is that the quality and intensity of interactions between cats and their people is very different in households with no more than one cat per cat-person (my situation and bias), although what is cause and what is effect is debatable. Although the book's title and description imply a close connection between the author and cats, what is actually written felt very detached, almost clinical.

I would say this book is a must have for cat lovers and owners. There is so much GREAT information in this book! There are lots of things in here that will help you in ways you didn't expect; things you will start to understand that you didn't before. Her main goal in this book is to help owners not to have to give away or euthanize their cats. It concentrates on things the owner can do to change the cat behavior. Actually, it's pretty much behavior modification for cats, through owner actions! Some of the cures in here are involved and time consuming. Some are impractical for me, as I live in a singlewide mobile home (and have multiple cats), and don't have room to do some of the things she talks about (and thank goodness I don't need to). But people in doublewides or houses and in many apartments, shouldn't have such a problem. Additionally, owners of one or two cats won't be so challenged. She is very able to explain the behaviors to you, so you can see them from the cats angle. An example is cats who won't use their litter boxes, when it is not a physical reason. I had no IDEA there could be so many different causes, and so many remedies to try. And she really walks you thru everything step by step, and does not leave you hanging, or forget to finish explaining something, as I have seen some authors do. She really does a superb job on explaining the causes as well and the solutions. There is also very involved information on cats that don't get along (a form of them being reintroduced gradually and nonthreateningly) which is extremely well set out. However, it is not a quick thing; it takes time and effort. But in the end all in the family should be very happy with each other and get along well.

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