

Meet our staff! This month, we are profiling Baker & Taylor's Pam Day, the editor of *Growing Minds*, *CATS Series*, and a number of other catalogs and microsites hosted by Baker & Taylor. Pam grew up in central Florida, where her father worked with the Space program at Cape Canaveral. She attended a performing arts high school in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, and embarked on a career as a professional classical ballet dancer after graduation. A highly circuitous route through a performance career, then undergraduate and graduate school (with a paralegal certificate thrown in for good measure) brought her to Baker & Taylor in Bridgewater, New Jersey. She'll be celebrating her 15th anniversary later this year.



**Q. Hi Pam. First off, tell us a little bit about what your role entails at Baker & Taylor.**

PD: As the editor of *Growing Minds*, I'm responsible for selecting the book and audiobook titles that will be included in the publication; writing and copyediting the bibliographic data and annotations for catalog listings; devising and coordinating the editorial content that is featured in each issue, including special collections and trend features that focus on particular topics of interest to our customers; and working closely with our production professionals to put the whole thing together! One of the best things about my job is seeing, month by month, the children and teen offerings from publishing houses of all sizes and being able to present these titles to our customers in a useful compendium that they look forward to receiving.

**Q. How has the 21st century's use of technology and shift to digital platforms changed how you edit a publication, if at all?**

PD: This is a great question. As the shift to digital technology has reached across the publishing industry, so too has it affected how B&T's publications are produced and delivered to our customers. The editors still create the majority of the publications according to the original process used to produce the print editions, only now, an additional process is employed to create and activate the publications in a digital format. These digital versions offer enhanced features to facilitate navigation within each issue, including links that allow readers to move easily between sections; click directly into TS360 for ease of purchasing; create "titles of interest" lists; share individual pages with favorite social networks; and print out a pdf of the entire publication, if reviewing a hard copy is more convenient or useful.

**Q. Are there any favorite reads you'd like to share with us? And what are you reading now?**

PD: As a child, my favorite book was *Charlotte's Web* by E. B. White. To this day, I take extra care to "relocate" any spiders I happen to find scrambling about indoors. Harming them in any way is unthinkable, thanks to Charlotte's influence. I'm currently reading an Advance Reader Copy of *The Lost Diary of Venice* by Margaux DeRoux. Scheduled to publish in June



2020, this debut novel of historical fiction positively shimmers with gorgeous language as it leads readers through the present-day story of Rose, a Connecticut-based book restorer, and William, a struggling painter who brings Rose a family heirloom which turns out to be a 16-century treatise on art that was written in Venice by one of William's ancestors five centuries earlier. Rose identifies the book as a palimpsest: a document written over a hidden diary that had purposely been scraped away. Rose is charged with restoring the book, and through this framework, the narrative ensues. Modern-day romance and Renaissance historical fiction fuse in this truly wonderful novel. I highly recommend it!

**Q. And finally, if you were to choose an adventure for our favorite furry mascots, Baker and Taylor, what might that be?**

PD: Ah, that's an easy one: I'm sending our cats to Cairo, Egypt, to explore the new Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM) that is set to open at the end of 2020 (<http://gem.gov.eg/index/AboutGEM.htm>). From its website: "The Grand Egyptian Museum holds in trust for Egypt and the World a chronological statement for the ancient history of Egypt over the past 7000 years."

Because the ancient Egyptians held cats in highest esteem, believing that cats possessed a bit of divine energy within them, I'm thinking this location would offer the perfect setting for Baker and Taylor's adventure. They'll enjoy a bit of star treatment along the way! Naturally, they'll be led through their journey by none other than Bastet, the half feline/half female Egyptian goddess of protection and cats. You see, because this new museum houses over 100,000 artifacts, about 3,500 of which belonged to the famous King Tutankhamen, and stands at the edge of the Western Desert overlooking the pyramids of Giza, mystery and excitement will abound. Our cats may very well need Bastet's protection as they embark on this adventure of a lifetime!



Pam's beloved dog, Emmy, off on her own adventure!

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Stay tuned for future Meet the Staff introductions, and if there's anyone you'd like to see gracing the pages of the *CATS Meow*, let us know at [CATS@baker-taylor.com](mailto:CATS@baker-taylor.com).

We hope you enjoy them! -*Baker & Taylor CATS*