

Dear Readers,

There's nothing like Nashville trips to conjure all sorts of story ideas. Music City is a vibrant, fun-filled community offering tons of activities. Anyone who enjoys music is guaranteed to have a great time. History lovers will find lots to do too. I've visited historic homes (Jesse James once lived there with his family), plantations, and Civil War sites. Channeling my enthusiasm for this amazing town, *Along the Road*, Book 2 of the Becker Family novels, came into being.

The book was awarded an Honorable Mention in the Eric Hoffer Book Awards for Romantic Fiction and has been named a Five-star *Readers' Favorite*.

*Along the Road's* heroine, Kat Becker, was a blast to write. It's easy to love a creation who is enthusiastic, energetic, and sees the world through the lens of humor. Her story flowed so easily it was as if she'd taken control of my keyboard, which meant I sometimes had to rein that girl in.

I hope you enjoyed getting to know Kat as she pursued her dream.

With warmest regards,

*Pat*



## Discussion Questions for *Along the Road*

(Printable)

1. We soon learn that Kat is the family "rebel". She and her mother have an especially rocky relationship. Do you think this factored into her decision to make the move to Nashville? Why?
2. Kat is determined to create a career for herself. Do you know anyone who has taken a similar leap of faith? What happened?
3. An alliance forms between Kat, Mac, and Shawn to keep Pop in the dark about Shawn's lifestyle and the relationship between Kat and Mac. Have you ever deliberately misled someone because you felt it was for their own good?
4. Complications grow as Mac's ex-wife reenters his world. What factors make a person take on responsibilities for someone else beyond what they should?
5. Charlie Daniels the cat, has long been Kat's closest companion. Have you ever experienced this type of connection with a pet?
6. Pop's medical emergency helps to bring the family closer together. But an emergency can also drive people apart. Have you or a friend experienced either outcome?
7. Do the main characters sound like people you'd choose as friends? Which character was your favorite and why?
8. If you had been a character in this story, what would you have done to influence the outcome?
9. Fun final question: If this book was turned into a movie, who would play the main characters?



***Along the Road***  
**Cocktails and Playlist**  
(Printable)

**Beer is Best**

Mac and Kat enjoy cooling off with a bottle of chilled beer served in a frosty glass.

Mac recently developed a taste for Bearwalker, produced by Nashville craft brewery Jackalope Brewing Company. It pours as a garnet amber color and has a toasted nutty taste, with hints of maple; although Mac swears it doesn't taste too sweet.

Kat is generally not fussy about her beer, but if she had to choose, her top pick is what she calls "good old Budweiser". Brewed in her home state of Missouri, she says it's her favorite because anyplace she goes, they always have Bud on hand.

**Dance Playlist**

Because Mac tends to be a homebody, Kat loves to get him out and about on a dance floor. He's become a good sport about it, although he much prefers a slow and sexy tune. Kat doesn't mind a bit. (Note: Not surprisingly, most of their dance card songs are slow and sexy.)

Boot Scootin' Boogie-Brooks & Dunn

Amazed-Lonestar

Making Memories of Us-Keith Urban

It's Your Love-Tim McGraw and Faith Hill

Redneck Woman-Gretchen Wilson

Cowboy Take Me Away-The Chicks

You Belong With Me-Taylor Swift

She's Everything-Brad Paisley

This list makes me want to put on my dance shoes. How about you?

