Today, we understand the hazards of allowing cats to roam freely, either by personal experience, hearsay, or through the media, including the Internet. Here are just a few of the outdoors dangers, although not an exhaustive list.

- The risk of contracting killer diseases, including FIV, FeLV, and FIP
- Injury and/or death from attacks by dogs, other cats, or predators
- Injury or death from vehicles
- "Cat-napping" for profit, or personal gain
- Trapping and disposal by cat-hating neighbors
- Torture and/or killing by psychopaths
- Confiscation by animal control authorities