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ReaderLink, B&T Call Off Deal

By Jim Milliot | Sep 26, 2025



Briarcliff Manor Public Library in New York.

In a joint statement issued Friday afternoon, ReaderLink and Baker & Taylor announced they have "mutually" agreed to call off the proposed acquisition of B&T by ReaderLink.

Earlier this month,
ReaderLink
announced it
had agreed to
acquire
substantially all
of the assets of
the library

wholesaler and take on much of its staff, but that all of B&T's financial obligations remained with the wholesaler. While publishers, suppliers, and others in the industry were relieved the troubled wholesaler would stay in business, many were concerned about how much of the outstanding obligations B&T owed publishers they would be able to pay following completion of the deal. Many publishers told *PW* they are owed significant sums by B&T.

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The deal was subject to due diligence and customary closing conditions and had been due to close Sept. 26. With the end of discussions, B&T and ReaderLink will continue to operate as separate enterprises. As of Monday morning, B&T had not issued any updates on how it planned to move forward.

A version of this article appeared in the 09/29/2025 issue of *Publishers Weekly* under the headline:

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