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## Fantasy/Science Fiction

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### K-2

Burningham, John. ***It's a secret!*** Somerville, Mass.: Candlewick, 2009.

Who hasn't wondered what those cats get up to at night? Marie-Elaine asks herself this question, and one evening her cat, Malcolm, allows her to come along--but she must keep it secret! After a run in with some no-good dogs, they meet up on a rooftop with lots of other cats for dancing, feasting, and revelry. Young readers will feel they are part of the festivities.

Gerstein, Mordecai. ***A Book***. New York: Roaring Brook Press, 2009.

Once there was a family who lived inside of a book. Everyone had a story (even the goldfish!) except for the little girl. Setting out to find her own story, she travels through many pages and genres, including fairy tales, mystery, and science fiction. This concept book is very "meta," but also a genuinely sweet story with an encouraging message.

### 3-4

Doherty, Berlie. ***The Goblin Baby***. New York: Random House, 2009.

Tam's adorable baby sister Blue has been stolen by the fairy folk, and, to make matters worse, replaced by a strange goblin baby. Tam must take the little goblin, whom he names Pix, into the land of Faery to find Blue and bring her back. The quest takes courage and ingenuity, and Tam becomes very attached to Pix along the way.

Klise, Kate. ***Dying to Meet You: 43 Old Cemetery Road***. New York:

Harcourt, 2009. Through letters and notes between characters, we learn the story of children's book author I.B. Grumpy, who is most chagrined to find that the house he has rented for the summer is inhabited by an abandoned boy and a 97-year-old ghost named Olive (that's **dead** 97 years). This witty tale of redemption demonstrates the timely moral that a family consists simply of people who love each other.

### 5-6

Jonell, Lynne. ***The Secret of Zoom***. New York: Henry Holt, 2009.

Christina lives a cloistered life in her father's mansion in the woods, until one day she discovers a secret tunnel to the outside. She meets an orphan named Taft and together they realize that terrible things are going on at the mysterious company her father works for. Christina must call upon strength she didn't know she had to save the day.

Stead, Rebecca. ***When You Reach Me***. New York: Wendy Lamb Books, 2009. Sixth grader Miranda is struggling through her awkward years in 1979 New York. Life is complicated for Miranda: her ex-best friend Sal is no longer speaking to her and she doesn't know why; her mom is preparing to compete on the \$20,000 Pyramid; and she starts receiving mysterious notes from someone who seems to know her future.