

# Geronimo Stilton

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## VALENTINE'S DAY DISASTER



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ISBN 0-439-69147-8

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Original title: *Chi trova un amico...trova un tesoro!*

Cover by Larry Keys

Illustrations Larry Keys, Blasco Tabasco, and Chiara Sacchi

Graphics by Merenguita Gingermouse, Moushiro Mousawa, and Gherardo DiLenna

Special thanks to Kathryn Cristaldi

Special thanks to Lidia Morson Tramontozzi

Interior design by Kay Petronio

12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

6 7 8 9 10 11/0

Printed in the U.S.A.

08

First printing, January 2006



# DEAR RODENT FRIENDS . . .

Dear rodent friends, here it is...another **whisker-licking** good tale just for you, from your friend *Geronimo Stilton!*

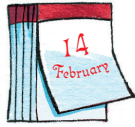
This story is all about one of my favorite holidays, **Valentine's Day**. Yes, I guess I'm just a sappy rodent at heart.

I love all of that mushy stuff, like hearts and flowers and creamy cheese pastries.

Read on to learn all about . . .

...the story of **Valentine's Day!**





# THE BEST PARTY YET!

**cheesecake!** It was **February 13**, and I was so excited. The next day was **Valentine's Day!** Do you like Valentine's Day? I do. Every year I throw a big party for all my **friends**. And this year was going to be the best one yet.







## How Did Valentine's Day Begin?

February 14 is dedicated to all people who love one another: friends, family, parents, and sweethearts. It's a special occasion to express our feelings by giving a gift of chocolate, a poem, a flower, or...a smile!

### ***IT'S A VERY OLD HOLIDAY***

On February 14, the ancient Romans celebrated the goddess Juno, wife of the god Jupiter, and protector of women and married couples. On February 15, the feast of Lupercalia was celebrated, in honor of the god Lupercus, the arrival of spring, and the fertility of the earth and animals. In the fifth century A.D., these feasts were both abolished, and February 14 became the day of Saint Valentine, the patron saint of lovers.

### ***THE STORY OF SAINT VALENTINE***

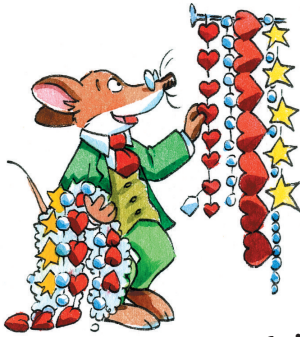
Valentine was the bishop of Terni, Italy. He was imprisoned, and then beheaded by the Roman Emperor Claudius II in A.D. 269. There are many stories in Valentine's life that show why he became the patron saint of people who love one another. This is one of them.

*After school, many children went to play in Valentine's garden. One day, Valentine heard a young couple arguing there. He gave them a beautiful rose and prayed that their love would be eternal. The two made up immediately and asked Valentine to officiate at their wedding!*

The invitations...



I had sent out more than one hundred *invitations* to my special friends and relatives. I had decorated my house with **red streamers**. I had ordered a heart-shaped **cheesecake** from Squeakini's, the best bakery in the city. I had even hired a **band!**



...colored streamers...

That night, I went to bed with a **smile** on my snout. I dreamed I was nibbling cheesecake at my

...the cake...



...the band!



THE BEST



PARTY YET

perfectly planned, perfectly **ORGANIZED**,  
fabumouse **Valentine's Day** party.

