Geronimo Stilton

THE PHANTOM OF THE SUBWAY



Scholastic Inc.

New York Toronto London Auckland Sydney Mexico City New Delhi Hong Kong Buenos Aires If you purchased this book without a cover, you should be aware that this book is stolen property. It was reported as "unsold and destroyed" to the publisher, and neither the author nor the publisher has received any payment for this "stripped book."

No part of this publication may be reproduced, or stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without written permission of the publisher. For information regarding permission, write to Scholastic Inc., Attention: Permissions Department, 557 Broadway, New York, NY 10012.

ISBN 0-439-66162-5

Copyright © 2000 by Edizioni Piemme S.p.A., via del Carmine 5, 15033 Casale Monferrato (AL), Italia.

English translation © 2004 by Edizioni Piemme S.p.A.

GERONIMO STILTON names, characters and related indicia are copyright, trademark and exclusive license of Edizioni Piemme S.p.A. All rights reserved. The moral right of the author has been asserted.

Published by Scholastic Inc.

SCHOLASTIC and associated logos are trademarks and/or registered trademarks of Scholastic Inc.

Stilton is the name of a famous English cheese. It is a registered trademark of the Stilton Cheese Makers' Association. For more information, go to www.stiltoncheese.com.

Text by Geronimo Stilton

Original title: II fantasma del metrò

Cover by Larry Keys

Illustrations by Blasco Tabasco and Guy Codana; revised by

Federatto Brusco

Graphics by Merenguita Gingermouse and Topea Sha Sha Special thanks to Kathryn Cristaldi

English Translation by Joan L. Giurdanella Cover and interior design by Kay Petronio

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

4 5 6 7 8 9/0 08

Printed in the U.S.A.

First printing, November 2004



TERROR IN THE SUBWAY

An ears were halfered was enough was chasing we wall was chasted was mare chaffering. The subway

I woke up with a start.

Pheew, it was only a dream! That's right. I was safe and sound in my bed. My ears weren't

Phoew, it was only a dream! That's right. I was safe and sound in my bed. My ears weren't

Phoemical Phoemic

My sister's shriek made

me jump. "Geronimooo! Get your tail to the office. **Right now!** It's important!" Thea yelled.

I looked at the clock and leaped.

Whaaat? Ten minutes past nine? I was terribly **late**!

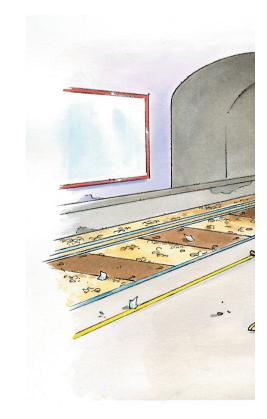
"I'm on my way," I told my sister. But I was talking to a dial tone. One thing you should know about my sister. She's not the

most patient mouse on the block.

shower, brushed my teeth, and got dressed in record time.

Then I rushed to the Singing Stone Plaza subway station.

I was waiting for my train when I heard





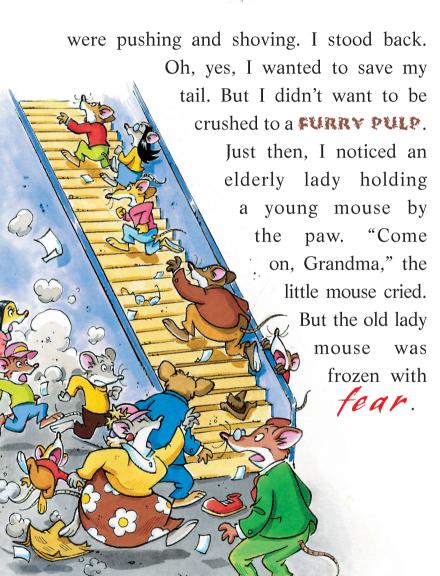
MEOO'

a **horrifying** sound.

The crowd rushed for the stairs, squeaking in terror. "A CAT! There's a CAT in the subway!"

I ran for the exit, too. It was bad enough I was late for work. I wasn't about to become some cat's breakfast sandwich! Rodents







Quickly, I grabbed her paw. "Don't worry, madam," I yelled. "Everything is going to be all right." I scooped up the young mouse. Then I led them both up the stairs.

At last, we were outside.

"Thank you, you are a true *gentlemouse*!" squeaked the old lady gratefully.

I smiled. Do you like to help others? I do. It makes me feel all warm inside. Sort of like when you eat a delicious bowl of hot shedder soup.

Thinking of soup reminded me that I had forgotten to eat breakfast. I was starving. I bought the little mouse a cheese ICE CREAM. Then I had one, too. Not my typical breakfast. But then this was not a typical morning.