

Geronimo Stilton

MICEKINGS

THE HELMET HOLDUP



Scholastic Inc.

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.”

Copyright © 2015 by Edizioni Piemme S.p.A., Palazzo Mondadori, Via Mondadori 1, 20090 Segrate, Italy. International Rights © Atlantyca S.p.A. English translation © 2017 by Atlantyca S.p.A.

The publisher does not have any control over and does not assume any responsibility for author or third-party websites or their content.

GERONIMO STILTON names, characters, and related indicia are copyright, trademark, and exclusive license of Atlantyca S.p.A. All rights reserved. The moral right of the author has been asserted. Based on an original idea by Elisabetta Dami. www.geronimostilton.com

Published by Scholastic Inc., *Publishers since 1920*, 557 Broadway, New York, NY 10012. 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.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, 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 copyright holder. For information regarding permission, please contact: Atlantyca S.p.A., Via Leopardi 8, 20123 Milan, Italy; e-mail foreignrights@atlantyca.it, www.atlantyca.com.

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are either the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously, and any resemblance to actual persons, living or dead, business establishments, events, or locales is entirely coincidental.

ISBN 978-1-338-15921-9

Text by Geronimo Stilton

Original title *Chi ha rubato l'elmo topingo?*

Cover by Giuseppe Facciotto (pencils) and Flavio Ferron (ink and color)

Illustrations by Giuseppe Facciotto (pencils) and Alessandro Costa (ink and color)

Graphics by Chiara Cebraro

Special thanks to AnnMarie Anderson

Translated by Andrea Schaffer

Interior design by Becky James

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

17 18 19 20 21

Printed in the U.S.A.

40

First printing 2017



I'M MOUSETASTICALLY LATE!

It was a beautiful summer **afternoon** in Mouseborg, the capital of Miceking Island. The **sky** was clear, there was a light breeze blowing, and seagulls fluttered around the dock, squawking **happily**.





I'M MOUSETASTICALLY LATE!

Oh, I'm so sorry! I haven't introduced myself: My name is Geronimo Stiltonord, and I am a mouseking scholar.

On this day, every mouseking in Mouseborg was looking forward to that evening's special performance by the **THREE MOUSEKINGETEERS**. Who are they,

THE THREE MOUSEKINGETEERS



Their names are Chucklepaw, Snickerfur, and Gigglewhiskers. They have curly red hair and wear super-stylish clothes, just like true celebrities!



you ask? Only the most famous comics on Miceking Island!

The show was planned for sunset in Great Stone Square. **SVEN THE SHOUTER**, our village chief, had decided that I, **GERONIMO STILTONORD**, would be the announcer for the performance! So, that evening, I put on my fanciest cloak, combed my fur and whiskers, and splashed on some **Eau de Mousk** cologne.

I opened the door to my house and glanced up at the sky before I stepped outside. I was checking to make sure there were no **dragons** in sight. Luckily, everything was calm — at least in the sky! But as I walked toward the center of the village, mice all around me were nervously **DASHING** here and there.

I figured they were hurrying toward Great

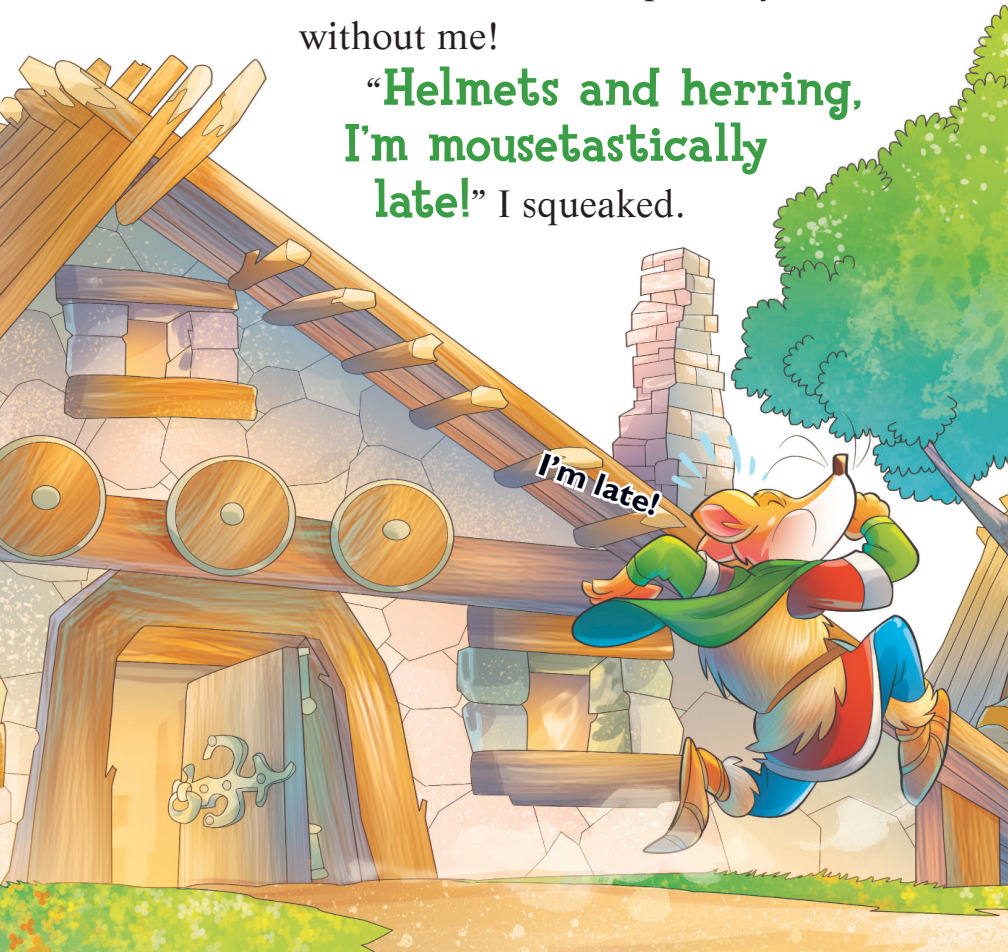


I'M MOUSETASTICALLY LATE!

Stone Square because they were **worried** about getting good seats for the show!

Wait a minute . . . the show was about to begin. That's why everyone was in such a **rush**. But the show couldn't possibly start without me!

"Helmets and herring, I'm mousetastically late!" I squeaked.



I'M MOUSETASTICALLY LATE!



I scampered through the village at record-breaking *speed*. I had just passed Sven the Shouter's house when someone suddenly appeared in front of me, blocking my path.

BONK!!!

We ran right into each other!

