### Welcome to the Ancient Far North ... and the World of the Micekings!

WHERE THEY LIVE: Miceking Island

CAPITAL: Mouseborg, home of the Stiltonord family

**OTHER VILLAGES:** Oofadale, village of the Oofa Oofas, and Feargard, village of the vilekings

CLIMATE: Cold, cold, cold, especially when the icy north wind blows!

**TYPICAL FOOD:** Gloog, a superstinky but fabumouse stew. The secret recipe is closely guarded by the wife of the miceking chief.

**NATIONAL DRINK:** Finnbrew, made of equal parts codfish juice and herring juice, with a splash of squid ink

**MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION:** The drekar, a light but very fast ship **GREATEST HONOR:** The miceking helmet. It is only earned when a mouse performs an act of courage or wins a Miceking Challenge.

**UNIT OF MEASUREMENT:** A mouseking tail (full tail, half tail, third tail, quarter tail)

**ENEMIES:** The terrible dragons who live in Beastgard

## MEET THE STILTONORD FAMILY



### ... AND THE EVIL DRAGONS!

**GOBBLER THE PUTRID** The fierce king of the dragons is a Devourer!

The dragons are divided into 5 clans, all of which are terrifying!

#### **1. Devourers**

They love to eat micekings raw — no cooking necessary.

#### 2. Steamers

They grab micekings, then fly over volcanoes so the steam and smoke make them taste good.

SIZZLE The cook

#### 3. Biters

Before eating micekings, they nibble them delicately to see if they like them or not.

#### 4. Slurpers

They wrap their long tongues around micekings and slurp them up.

#### 5. Rinsers

As soon as they catch micekings, they rinse them in a stream to wash them off.

## Geronimo Stilton

# MICEKINGS THE FAMOUSE FJORD RACE



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ISBN 978-0-545-87239-3

Text by Geronimo Stilton Original title *Scattare scattareee... Geronimord!* 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 Julia Heim Interior design by Kay Petronio

 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
 16 17 18 19 20

 Printed in the U.S.A.
 40

 First printing 2016
 40



## GERONIMO. Our Hero!

It was a splendid summer afternoon in Mouseborg, the capital of Miceking Island. The sun was **Shimimg** high in the sky, the clouds were rushing past, and a light breeze was making the **flowers** wave in the fields.

Oh, I'm such a scatterbrain! I haven't introduced myself: My name is GERONIMO STILTONORD, and I am a mouseking. I live in the ancient far north, where it's cold for most of the year — except in the summer! As I was saying, it was a very HOTafternoon. It was so hot that I decided to take a little **nap**.









When I woke, I was in the **best mood**. I headed straight toward the town square.

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That afternoon the entire village was celebrating a very **Special** occasion in honor of yours truly. I was about to receive my first **miceking helmet**, our

highest honor!

On the street, rodents greeted me with huge smiles and **PAWSHAKES**. When I arrived in the square, I heard mice cheering my name: "Geronimo! Our hero has arrived!" "Cheesy catapults, there he is!" "It's Geronimo!"

A stage was set up for the ceremony, and it was decorated with crests and **C°L°RED** flags.

The village chief, **SYEN THE SHOUTER**, stepped forward and lifted





his arms with a solemn gesture.

All the micekings quieted down.

"MICEKINGS of Mouseborg!" Sven exclaimed. "This is a **SPECIAL** day that will be remembered for generations and generations!"

Then he looked my way.

"Come up here, ♥ALIANT Geronimo!" Sven said.

My whiskers **trembling** with emotion, I greeted the crowd and headed for the





stage. Sven the Shouter lifted a **Shiny** miceking helmet over my head. Then, in a **thundering** voice, he proclaimed:

"I, Sven the Shouter, award the highest honor to Geronimo the Smartymouseking!"

"Hip, hip, hooray!" the crowd answered, shouting as one.

"For his incredible heroism!" Sven shouted.

"Hip, hip, hooray!" everyone replied.

"For his amazing courage!" Sven cried.

"Hip, hip, hooray." said the crowd.

"And for his fabumouse athletic skills," Sven concluded as he placed the helmet over my snout. "SO SAYS SVEN THE SHOUTER!"

As is customary in Mouseborg, the crowd echoed back:

"SO SAYS SVEN THE SHOUTER!"







I looked out into the audience to see my sister, Thea, my sweet nephew Benjamin, and my cousin Trap **smiling** at me.

Then someone came up behind me and tapped me on the shoulder. I turned to face a mouse with eyes as **Due** as the water of a fjord and hair as **RED** as the sunset.

Helmets and herring! It was **Thora**, Sven's daughter. She is the most courageous and fascinating mouseking in the entire village!



My heart began to pound so loudly I was sure Thora could hear it. As I stared at her foolishly, she gave me a HUG and whispered





in my ear: "You look like a true **hero** in that helmet, Geronimo!"

"*Uuuuncle! Uuuuncle!*" a little voice suddenly shrieked loudly.

"H-huh?" I stammered, confused. "Who's that? What's going on?"

"Uncle!" the voice **squeaked** again.





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I opened my eyes and finally understood. The rejoicing crowd . . . my first miceking helmet . . . the courageous Thora: It had all been just a dream!

The little voice at my door belonged to my nephew **BENJAMIN**! And that meant I was still at home, half-asleep and in my pajamas.

**FJORDS AND FIDDLESTICKS!** That also meant I was late for my runes lesson with Benjamin and his friend Bugsilda!

#### LET'S LEARN TO READ!

Benjamin and his best friend, Bugsilda, often visit me to learn to read and write. I'm the official village scholar, so I know runes, which are characters that make up the miceking alphabet. I hold our lessons in the yard behind my hut.