Geronimo Stilton

THE PECULIAR PUMPKIN THIEF



Scholastic Inc.

New York Toronto London Auckland Sydney Mexico City New Delhi Hong Kong 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 book 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 from the copyright holder. For information, please contact Atlantyca S.p.A., Via Leopardi 8, 20123 Milan, Italy; e-mail: foreignrights@atlantyca.it, www.atlantyca.com.

ISBN 978-0-545-10372-5

Copyright © 2003 by Edizioni Piemme S.p.A., via Tiziano 32, 20145 Milan, Italy.

International Rights © Atlantyca S.p.A.

English translation © 2010 by Atlantyca S.p.A.

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 idea by Elisabetta Dami.

www.geronimostilton.com

Published by Scholastic Inc., 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.

Text by Geronimo Stilton
Original title *Lo strano caso della Torre Pagliaccia*Cover by Lorenzo Chiavini
Illustrations by Lorenzo Chiavini
Graphics by Topea Sha Sha

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

10 11 12 13 14 15/0

Printed in the U.S.A. First printing, July 2010



THE GREATEST HALLOWEEN PARTY EVER!

It was a cold, rainy October night. On the streets of New Mouse City, the **HOWLING WIND** threatened to rip my favorite CHEESE-COLORED umbrella right out of my paws! Rat's whishers! How I wished I were home relaxing in my comfy cat-fur slippers. Instead I was heading A downtown to . . . OOPS! I did it again! When will I ever remember to introduce myself? My

name is Stilton, *Geronimo Stilton*. I am the publisher of *The Rodent's Gazette*, the most famouse **newspaper** on Mouse Island.

Anyway, where was I? Oh, yes, I was heading downtown to meet my favorite nephew, Benjamin. It was only a few days until ##[[OWEEN], and I had promised him I would throw a Halloween party at my house. We would invite all of his friends.

"Ready to go shopping for the party?" I asked the little mouse.

Benjamin's **Smile** made me forget all about the dreary weather.

"This is going to be the **GREATEST** Halloween party ever!" he squeaked. "You're the **best**, Uncle Geronimo!"

Did I mention I have the **SWCCtCSt** nephew on the planet?

