

Geronimo Stilton

THE ENORMOUSE PEARL HEIST



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HISSSSS!

SIZZLING SWISS BITS! It was a blistering-hot summer. That day I had decided to skip the **HOT** subway ride and work from home. I was sweating at my desk, finishing up my latest **bestseller**, when suddenly . . .

Oops, how rude. I almost forgot to introduce myself. My name is Stilton, *Geronimo Stilton*. I am the editor of **The Rodent's Gazette**, the most popular paper on Mouse Island.



HISSSSS!



Anyway, where was I? Oh, yes, I was tapping away at my computer when all of a sudden I heard a terrible hissing noise.

Hisssss! I nearly jumped out of my fur. It sounded like a den of snakes! I was about to climb up onto my desk when I heard a strange knocking sound:

KNOCK! KNOCK! KNOCK!

Before I could get to the door I heard a small explosion.

BANG!

Just then, black smoke started pouring out of my old air-conditioning unit.

Rats! Immediately, it seemed like the room grew ten degrees **HOTTER**.

I tried calling all the appliance stores in New Mouse City to see if

HISSSSS!



I could get a new unit, but they were either out of stock or on vacation.

Sweat **trickled** down my fur. I was hotter than the award-winning entry at the New Mouse City **Great Balls of Fire Chili Cook-Off!**

To keep cool, I tried:

- 1** Eating tons of ice pops (but I got a stomachache).
- 2** Wrapping my head in frozen towels (but I got a headache).
- 3** Putting my paws in a pail of ice water (but the pail sprang a leak).
- 4** Taking a cold shower every thirty minutes (but that wasted too much time).
- 5** Turning on my giant fan (but my papers flew all over).

HISSSSS!



Finally, I couldn't take it anymore. "Drastic times call for drastic measures!" I said to myself. Then I filled the bathtub with **ice cubes**, grabbed my manuscript, and immersed myself in the **icy** water.

"Oh, it's so nice to be cool!" I squeaked happily.

I had just begun reading when the doorbell rang.

Oh, it's so nice to be cool!



HISSSSS!



DING-DONG! DING-DONG!

Holey cheese! I was so startled I almost dropped my manuscript into the water!

With a groan, I **CLIMBED** out of the bathtub, wrapped a towel around my waist, and went downstairs.

“This better be important,” I mumbled, **flinging** the door open. A beautiful rodent stood before me.

Oops!



“**Petunia Pretty Paws!**” I exclaimed, turning **RED** with embarrassment. “What a surprise!”