Geronimo Stilton

THE CURSE OF THE CHEESE PYRAMID



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WAKE UP! Wake Uuuuuuup!

It was just before dawn in the middle of winter. The moon shone down over the mouse holes of New Mouse City. I was fast asleep under my comfy, cozy blankets, snoring away.

Ring!

Ring!

Suddenly, the phone rang.

I stumbled out of bed, sinking my paws into my new cat-fur rug. Ring! It was so soft. I had bought it last weekend at The Fur Mart with my uncle Nibbles. It was expensive, but worth every penny!

Still half asleep, I stared down at the fluffy carpet.

Then I picked up

the phone.

"Hello! Stilton speaking, Geronimo Stilton," I mumbled.

A strangely familiar voice shrieked back at me. "WAKE UP!" it cried.

W AKEUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUU

My ears were ringing like church bells at Christmousetime. "W-who . . . w-what . . . who is it?" I stammered.

But the mad shrieker had already hung up.

I glanced at the alarm clock. **RANCID RAT HAIRS!** It was six o'clock in the morning!

I dove back under my covers and continued snoring.

I woke up again at eight o'clock.

I called a taxi to take me to the office.

I arrived at nine o'clock sharp.

Oh, yes, I forgot to mention that I run a newspaper. It is called *The Rodent's Gazette*. It is the most popular newspaper on Mouse Island! I'd like to say the paper's a success just because of me. But I have lots of help. Still, I'm the big cheese at the office.

As I was saying, I got to work at nine o'clock sharp. I opened the door to my office wide . . .

... and found myself snout-to-snout with my grandfather **William Shortpaws**—



also known as **Cheap Mouse Willy**.

Grandfather William is a tough-talking mouse. Everyone at the office is afraid of him. That's because he is the founder of *The Rodent's Gazette*!