

# Just Stupid!

From BUSTING

I'm in the supermarket trying to remember what groceries Mum wanted me to pick up, but I can't think. I can't breathe. I can't do anything. I'm busting. And I don't mean busting. I mean BUSTING!

I've got to find a toilet. Fast. Then I can come back and think about the shopping with a clear head. Or not so much a clear head as a clear bladder.

I haven't got a second to lose. I run down the aisle and skid around the corner. WHAM!

Straight into an old guy with a walking frame. He staggers forward and crashes into a stack of cans. They go rolling all over the floor. The old man is lying in the middle of them.

'Well, don't just stand there,' he says. 'Help me up!'

I reach down, take hold of his hand and pull him up to his feet. Luckily he's not very heavy. I stand his walking frame up for him. He's muttering words I don't understand.

The store manager appears. I can tell he's the store manager because his pants are too tight. Plus he's wearing a badge that says Store Manager.

'What happened?' he says.

Before I can say anything the old man answers.

'This silly young boy knocked me over. It wouldn't have happened in my day. When I was young we respected our elders.'

'It was an accident!' I say.

'Were you running?' says the store manager.

'Yes,' I say, 'but I'm . . .'

'There's no excuse,' he says. 'I think you owe this gentleman an apology. Then you can pick up all the cans.'

'But I'm bursting!'

'You should have thought about that before you started knocking people over and destroying my displays,' he says.

I get the feeling that I'm going to get out of here quicker if I just do what he says. I turn to the old man.

'I'm sorry,' I say. 'I shouldn't have been running and I hope you're not hurt.'

He shrugs and mutters something that I can't understand. I start picking up the cans. I can't believe how far they've rolled. Some have rolled at least two or three aisles away. And the store manager makes me pick up every last one.

By the time I've finished I'm seriously busting.