

A POEM

MARTIN GARDNER

This is an excerpt from Gardner's 1969 book *Never Make Fun Of A Turtle, My Son* (Simon and Schuster, illustrated by John Alcorn).

Supermarket

A supermarket, Thomas,
 Is a super-crowded spot.
No romping up and down the aisles,
 It's not a vacant lot.

Be careful where you push the cart,
 Be sure the way is clear.
It's super-impolite to bump
 Miss Hippo on her rear.

You see that pile of boxes?
 It's ten feet high or more.
Don't try to pull the bottom box.
 They'll all fall on the floor.

Keep fingers off the candy shelves,
 Be super-patient, Son.
Mom will cook a super supper
 When her super-shopping's done.