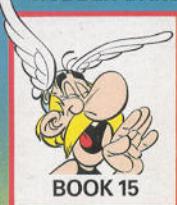


HODDER DARGAUD PRESENTS



BOOK 15

TEXT: GOSCINNY
DRAWINGS: UDERZO

Asterix

and the GOLDEN SICKLE



Asterix and the Golden Sickle

THE FIERCELY INDEPENDENT LITTLE VILLAGE WHERE ASTERIX AND THE OTHER GAULS LIVE IS AT PEACE...



OBELIX IS HAPPILY AT WORK, CARVING OUT A MENHIR...

THERE'LL ALWAYS BE A GAU-AAHH!!

CACOFONIX THE BARD IS GIVING THE CHILDREN LESSONS...

WELL, YOUNG MAN, AND INTO HOW MANY PARTS IS GAUL DIVIDED?

$$\text{VIII} \times \text{V} = \text{XL}$$

$$3 \times 5 = 15$$

$$= \text{IV}$$

IN SHORT, EVERYONE IS CONTENTED. ALL IS PEACE AND PLENTY!!!

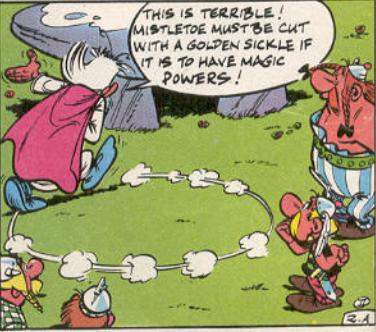
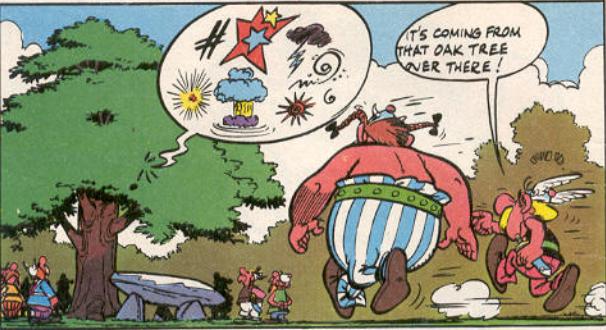
ANOTHER BOAR, OBELIX?

YES, PLEASE!

WHEN SUDDENLY...

OH, BY TOUTATIS!







I'VE HEARD THERE
ARE A LOT OF BANDITS
ABOUT THE FOREST JUST
NOW. I THINK I'LL TAKE
A DROP OF MAGIC
POTION.

ALL THESE FEEBLE EXCUSES
ABOUT ME FALLING INTO THE
CAULDRON OF POTION WHEN I WAS
A BABY. JUST TO STOP ME
HAVING ANY! IT'S NOT FAIR!

HAVE YOU GOT
ANYTHING TO PAY
FOR THE SICKLE?

YES, I'VE GOT A
HUNDRED GOLD COINS
FOR THE SICKLE, AND
SOME BRONZE COINS
FOR INCIDENTAL
EXPENSES!!!

DID YOU
HEAR THAT?

COME ON!

YOUR MONEY
OR YOUR LIFE!

DO YOU SUPPOSE
THESE ARE
BANDITS?

VERY
LIKELY!!!

POL!
METALLURGIX
MUST BE
DOING WELL!

YES,
HE IS.

WHAT DOES HE
DO WITH ALL THE
GOLD COINS HE
GETS FOR HIS
SICKLES?

OH, HE MAKES
MORE SICKLES.

STON!

I HOPE WE AREN'T
GOING TO MEET TOO MANY
MORE BANDITS ON THE WAY.
IT DOES CUT DOWN OUR
AVERAGE SPEED.



NIGHT IS FALLING,
OBELIX. THERE'S
AN INN NEAR HERE
CALLED THE CONTRITE
BARBARIAN. WE'LL
STOP THERE!!!

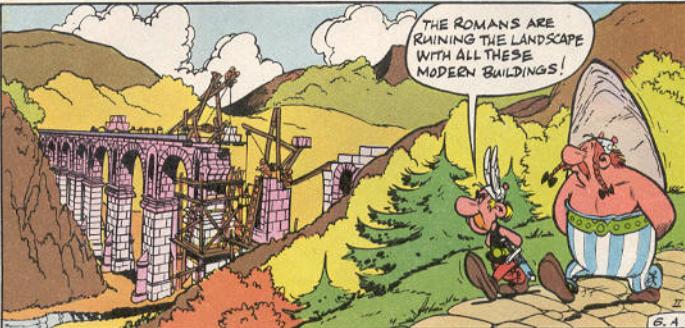
DANGER
SLIPPERY
FLAGSTONES

THIS INN IS
FAMOUS FOR ITS
SIMPLE LITTLE
SPECIALITY:
ROAST BOAR!

ROAST OR JUST
SERVED RAW AS
A SIMPLE LITTLE
SALAD. BOAR IS MY
FAVOURITE FOOD!



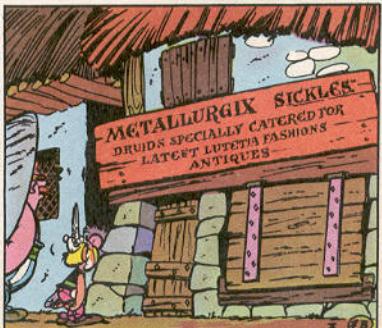
NEXT MORNING!!!

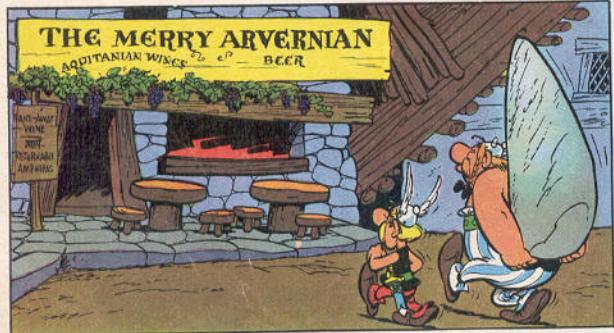
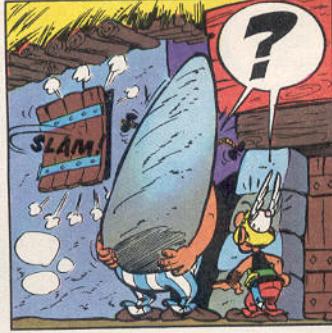
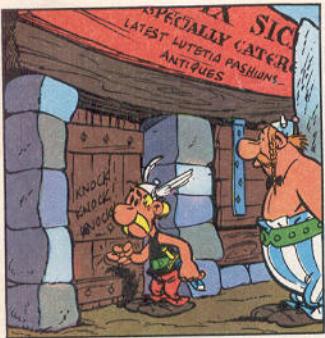


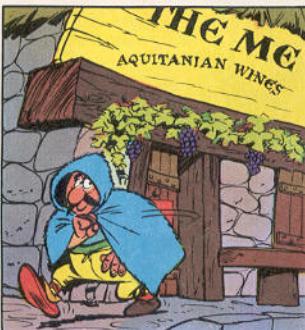
BUT AT LAST, ONE DAY...

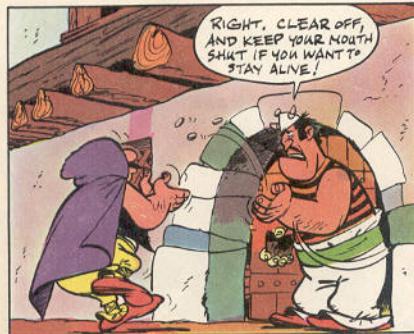


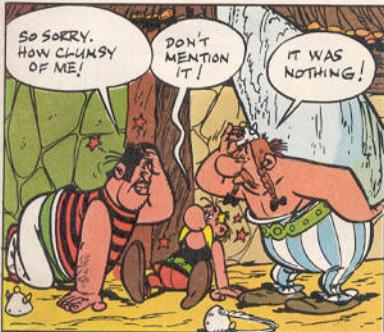
6.3

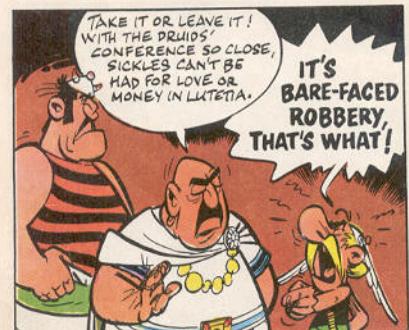


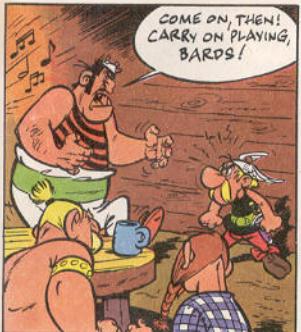


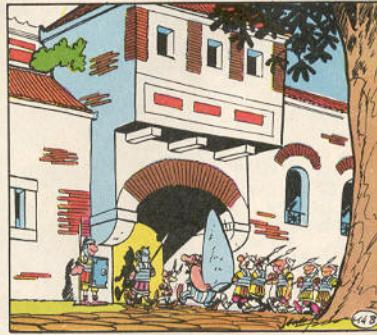
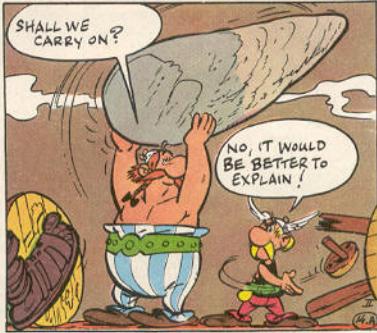


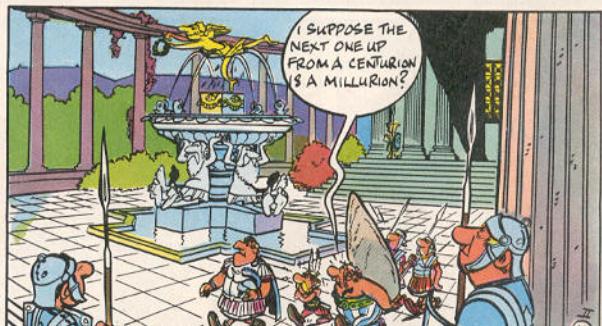
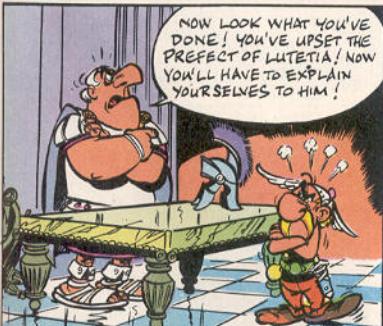
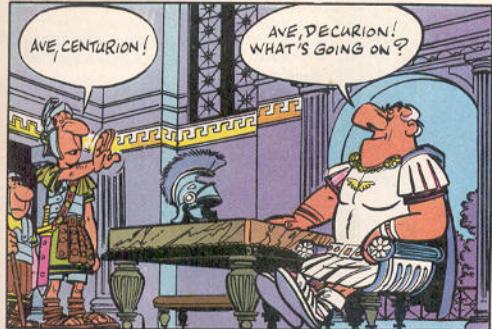


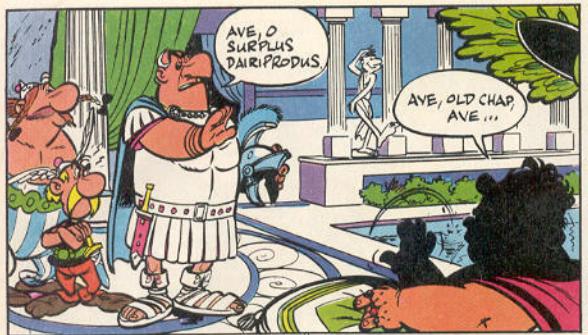












I'M TIRED OF GAULS,
THEY'RE ALWAYS FIGHTING.
IT'S SUCH A BORE...



I ALWAYS THOUGHT
NAVISHTRIX WAS
MIXED UP IN THIS
SICKLE-TRAFFICKING
BUSINESS ...

HOW VERY
PERSPICACIOUS OF
YOU, O SURPLUS
DAIPIPRODUS.



ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT,
RELEASE THESE GAULS,
I FIND THEM TIRING... WHAT
A BORE, WHAT A BORE...



WHAT IS ALL
THIS ABOUT
A SICKLE-
TRAFFICKING
BUSINESS?

OH, THERE'S A GANG OF GOLDEN-
SICKLE-TRAFFICKERS IN LATETIA.
SICKLES ARE IN GREAT DEMAND,
BECAUSE OF THE CONFERENCE IN THE
FOREST OF THE CARNUTES...

WHAT DID HE
MEAN? WHAT A
BOAR? I CAN'T SEE
ONE ANYWHERE...



SO NOW THEY HAVE THE MONOPOLY,
ESPECIALLY AS METALLURGIX
DISAPPEARED WITHOUT LEAVING
ANY FORWARDING ADDRESS...



BUT THEN...
PERHAPS THEY'VE
KIDNAPPED
METALLURGIX?



KIDNAPPED OR
MURDERED... WELL,
OFF YOU GO, AND I DON'T
WANT TO SEE ANY
MORE OF YOU!

BOOOOOOOO!
POOR COUSIN
METALLURGIX!



BOOHOOC!
POOR COUSIN
METALLURGIX!

WE'LL FIND HIM,
OBELIX. FOR A START,
WHAT DOES YOUR
COUSIN LOOK LIKE?

WHAT DOES HE LOOK
LIKE? I'VE NO IDEA.
I'VE NEVER SET
EYES ON HIM.

LET'S GO BACK
TO HIS HOUSE.
WE MIGHT FIND A
CLUE THERE...

SO WE MIGHT,
CAN I BE EXPECTED TO
KNOW WHAT HE LOOKS
LIKE WHEN I'VE NEVER
SEEN HIM...?
SOME TIMES ASTERIX
JUST DOESN'T STOP
TO THINK!

THE DOOR'S LOCKED,
OF COURSE...

LEAVE IT TO ME,
I'LL OPEN IT...

AUVE
SPECIAL
ANTIQUES

CRAAASH!

ALL'S
ROIDS XPE
TEST LU
ANTY
THERE YOU ARE!

WHAT A MESS!
THAT'S FUNNY; WE'RE
RATHER TIDY IN MY
FAMILY...

THERE'S BEEN A
FIGHT HERE. LOOK,
METALLURGIX HAS LEFT
HIS PERSONAL BELONGINGS
AND HIS KITCHEN
UTENSILS BEHIND...

BUT HIS TOOLS, HIS
SICKLES AND HIS
MONEY ARE ALL
MISSING. OBELIX,
YOUR COUSIN'S BEEN
KIDNAPPED BY THE
SICKLE-
TRAFFICKERS!

BOOHOOC!
POOR
METALLURGIX!

WELL, THIS PROVES
METALLURGIX IS
STILL ALIVE. WE'LL
FIND HIM, BY
TAUTATIS!

OH
GOODY!

LET'S MOVE IN
HERE, AND FIRST,
LET'S GO AND DO
SOME SHOPPING.

GOOD IDEA!

LATER...

WHAT A PRICE BOAR
IS IN LUTETIA!

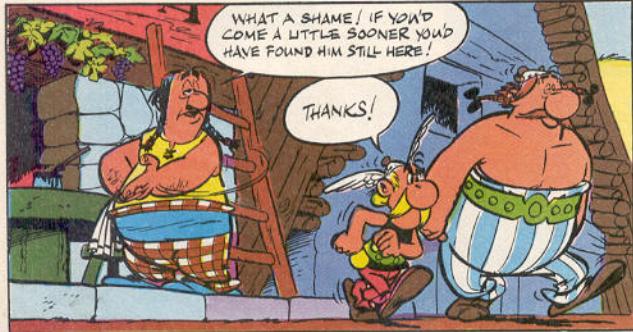
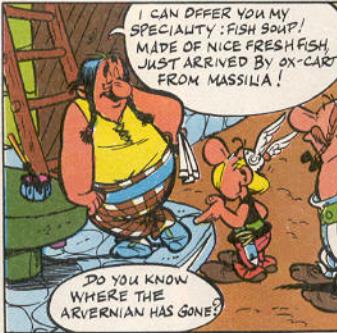
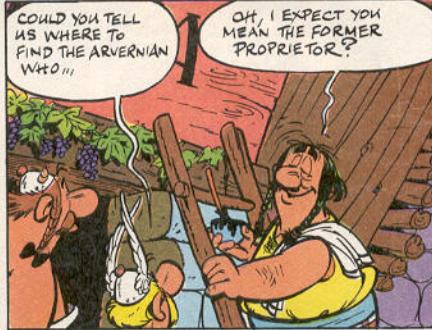
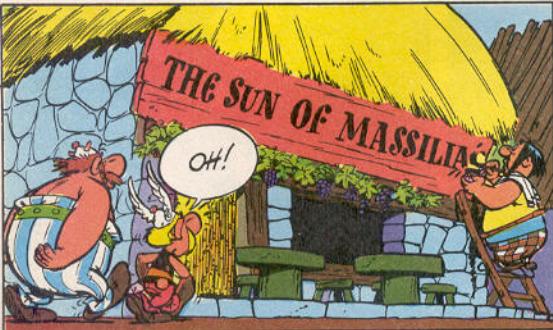
AND THE BUTCHER SAID
PRICES WERE GOING TO
RISE EVEN HIGHER. IT'S
A POOR LOOKOUT FOR
GAUL!

THE SUN, RISING ON LUTETIA,
IS GREETED BY A COCKEREL...

GET UP, OBELEX!
IT'S TIME TO START
OUR INVESTIGATIONS!

THAT'S RIGHT.
WE MUST FIND
METALLURGIIX.

COCK-A-DOODLE-DO!



WE'LL CATCH UP
WITH THE
ARVERNIAN ON THE
WAY TO
GERGOVIA.

RIGHT!

HE CAN'T HAVE
GOT FAR, AND ON
FOOT WE'RE AS FAST
AS ANY OX-CART!

OF COURSE
WE ARE!
THE OXEN
ARE ON FOOT
TOO!

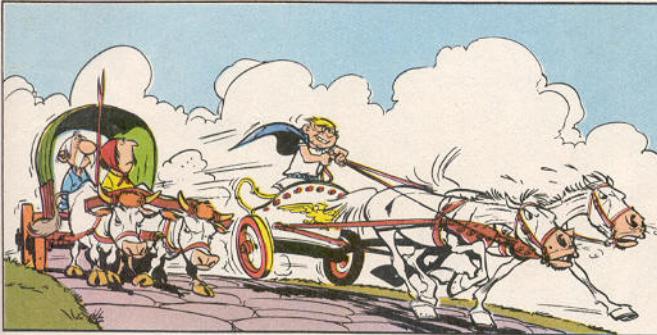
CAN YOU TELL ME THE
WAY TO GERGOVIA,
PLEASE?

TAKE
ROMAN ROAD VII.

WHAT A LOT
OF TRAFFIC!

THERE MUST OFTEN BE
AMPHORA-NECKS ON
FINE DAYS!

SLOW!
SLAVES AT WORK

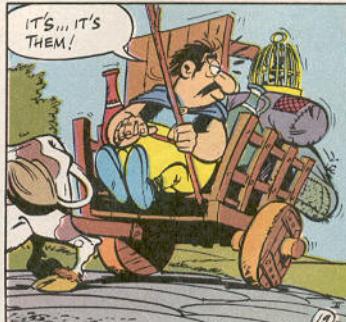
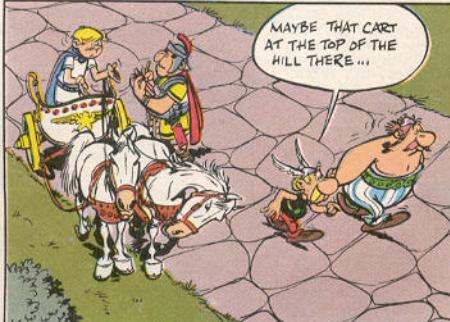


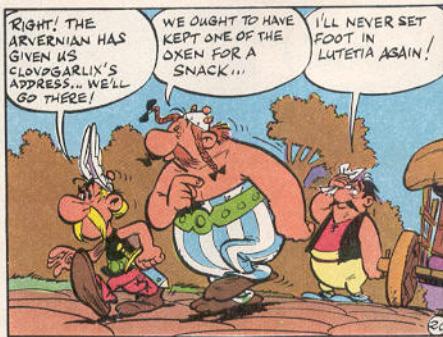
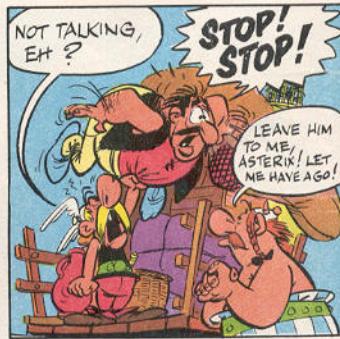
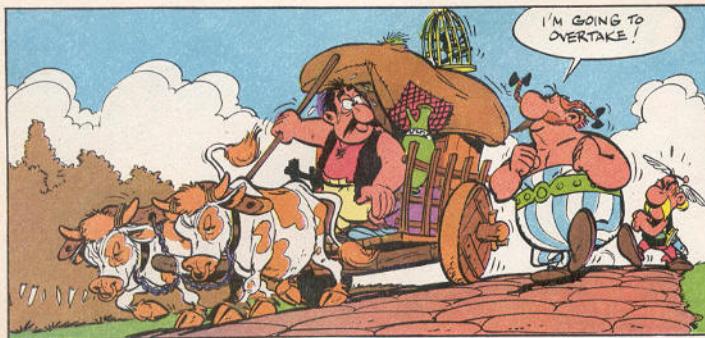
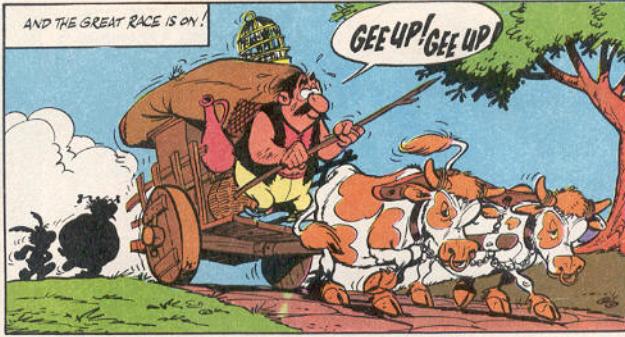
THAT'S WHAT!
CALL REAL
DRIVING!
ACCIDENTS CAN
HAPPEN SO
QUICKLY!

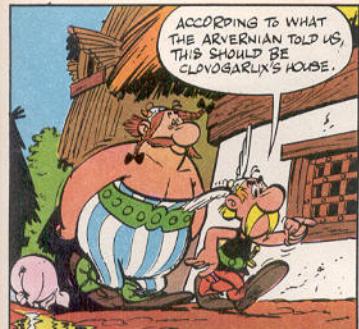
I STILL DON'T
SEE OUR
ARVERNIAN FRIEND...

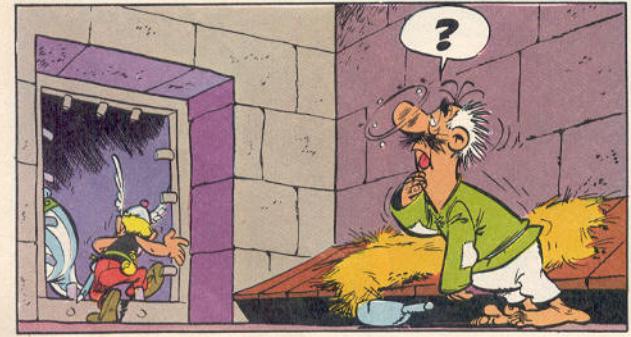
MAYBE THAT CART
AT THE TOP OF THE
HILL THERE...

IT'S... IT'S
THEM!

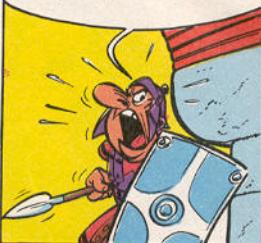
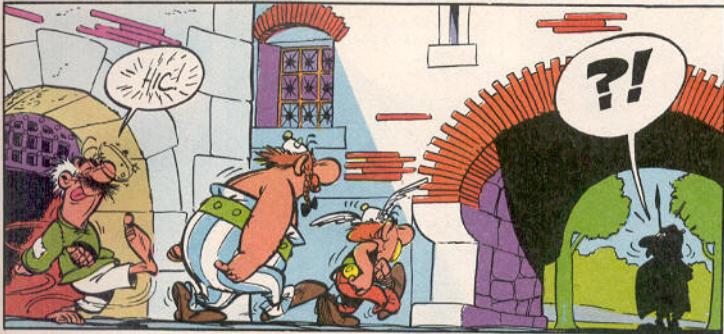








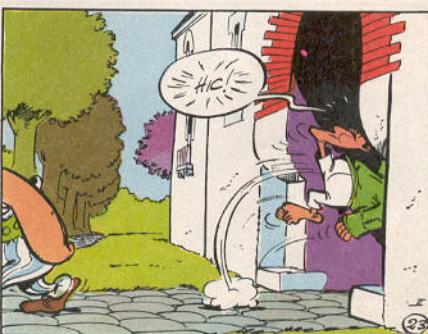
HELP! RAISE THE ALARM! THE PRISONERS ARE ESCAPING!



STOP, BY MERCURY! MY MASTER THE PREFECT IS COMPLAINING ABOUT THE NOISE. HE ORDERS YOU TO GO AND EXPLAIN WHAT'S HAPPENING!



I FIND THAT ALMOST AMUSING. IT'S QUITE GOOD! AS A REWARD, I SHALL SET THESE TWO GAULS FREE!



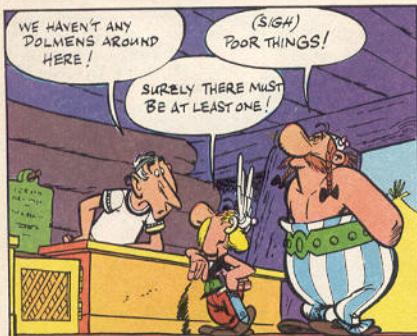
WE MUST FIND THE
DOLMEN WHERE
CLOVOGARLIX AND
NAVISHTRIX MEET!

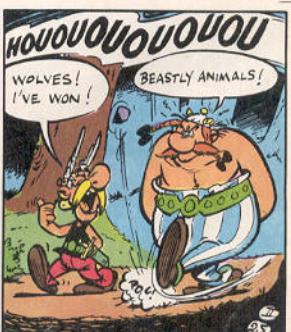
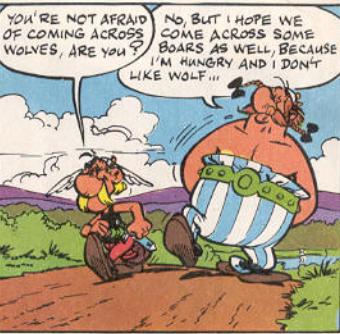
IT WON'T BE
EASY...

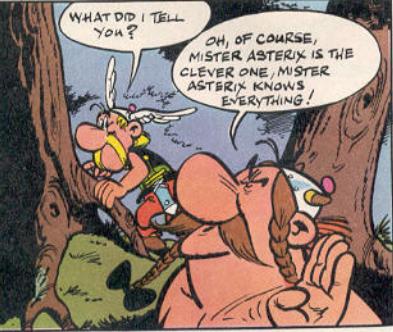
ALCOHOLIX
MOUNTAIN WINE

YOU NEVER KNOW.
THE LUTETIANS CAN'T
HAVE MANY
DOLMENS...
POOR THINGS!

WE SHOULD BE ABLE
TO GET SOME
INFORMATION OVER
THERE...





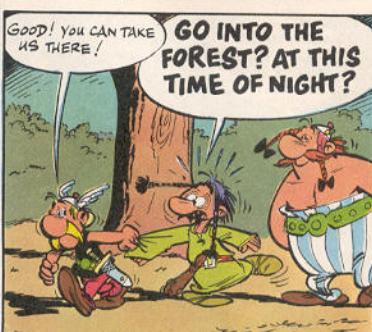
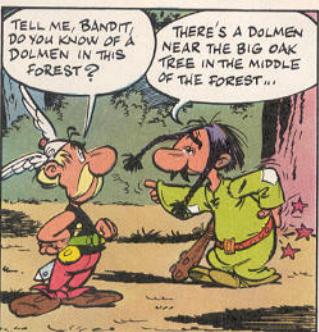


THANK YOU,
VERY MUCH,
GENTLE MEN.

WHO ARE YOU?

I'M A BANDIT...

COULD'NT YOU HAVE COME ON
THE SCENE A BIT SOONER? THEN
I'D HAVE WON MY BET!
PUT ME DOWN!



THE RAIN'S
STOPPING AND THE
MOON'S COMING
OUT.

YES, BUT
WE'RE LOST.

I'M STARTING TO
WONDER WHETHER
WE SHALL EVER FIND
THAT DOLMEN ...

BOOHOOO!
POOR METALLURGIX!
WE'LL NEVER BE ABLE
TO RESCUE HIM NOW!
BOOHOOO!

WAIT A MINUTE...
WHAT'S THIS?

SNIFF!

IT'S THE
DOLMEN,
OBELIX!
WE'VE
FOUND IT!

THIS IS IT! LOOK!
THE BIG OAK
TREE!

METALLURGIX
IS RESCUED!
WE'VE RESCUED
METALLURGIX!

NOW WHAT DO
WE DO, ASTERIX?

THIS DOLMEN IS A
RENDEZVOUS FOR
SICKLE-TRAFFICKERS.
WE'RE GOING TO
LIE IN WAIT AND
WATCH!

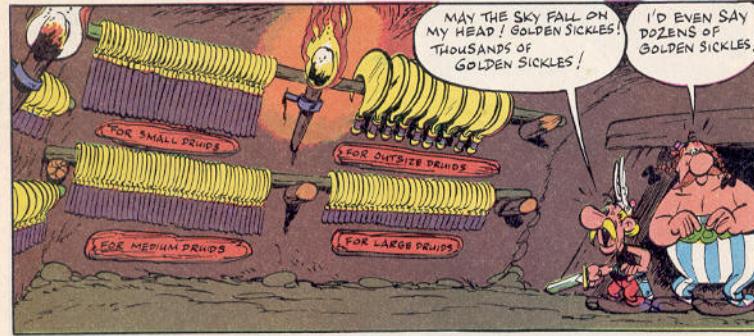
TIME PASSES, AND THE SUN
GOD RETURNS TO HIS
PLACE IN THE SKY ...

WAKE UP, OBELIX!
SOMEONE'S COMING!

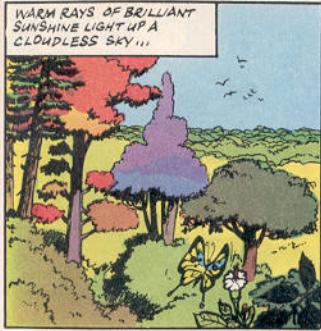
32

12.50





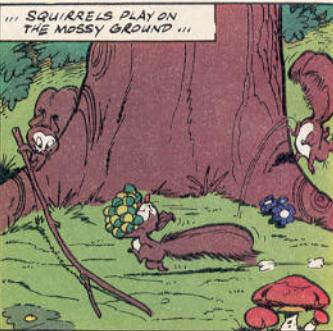
WARM RAYS OF BRILLIANT
SUNSHINE LIGHT UP A
CLOUDLESS SKY ...



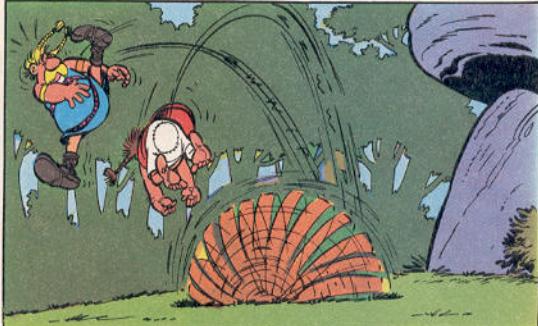
... LITTLE BIRDS WARBLE ON
THE LEAFY BRANCHES ...



SQUIRRELS PLAY ON
THE MOSSY GROUND ...



... WHILE UNDERNEATH
THE MOSSY GROUND ...



ARE THERE ANY LEFT,
ASTERIX?

NO, OBELIX, YOU'RE
JUST FINISHING OFF
THE LAST ONE ...



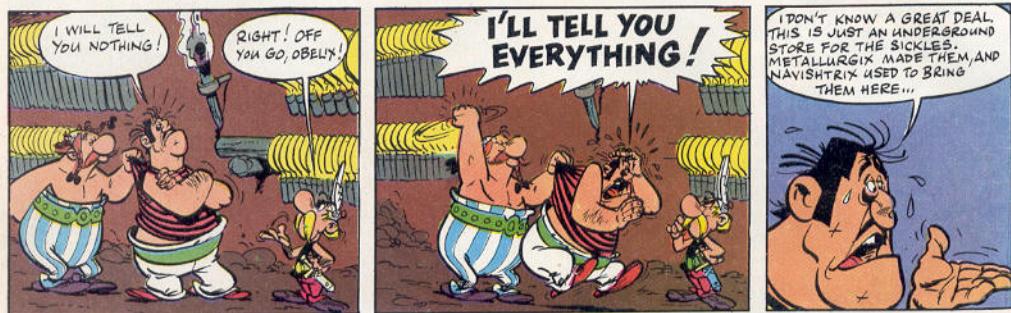
LET'S GET
OUT OF HERE
AND WARN
THE BOSS!

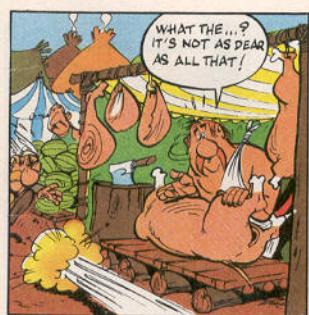
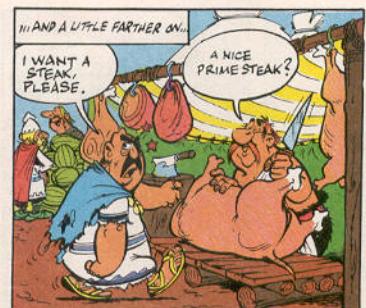


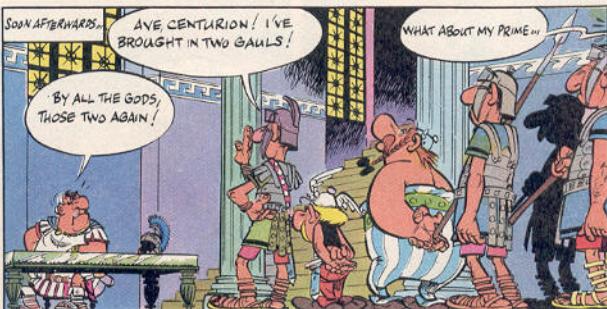
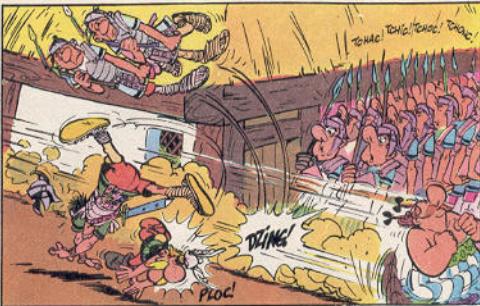
ANYWAY, I'VE GOT CLOVOGARLIX.

THAT'S SOMETHING...

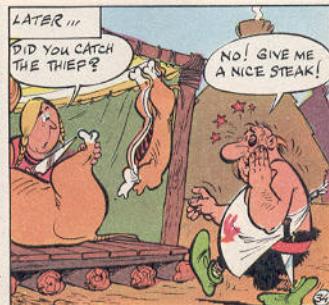


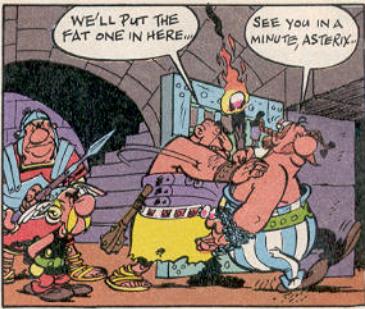






I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT I'M GOING TO DO ABOUT YOUR PRIME STEAK!!





ARE YOU GOING TO
GET THIS GOURD
FOR ME ?!!!

NO!...SHIC!... YOU'RE
NOT VERY KIND...
I'M SULKING!

LISTEN... IT'S VERY
GOOD STUFF, AND YOU
CAN HAVE A DROP
YOURSELF...

=HIC!=

IN THAT CASE,
ALL RIGHT!

IT'S GOT A
FUNNY TASTE...

I'M COMING ASTERIX!

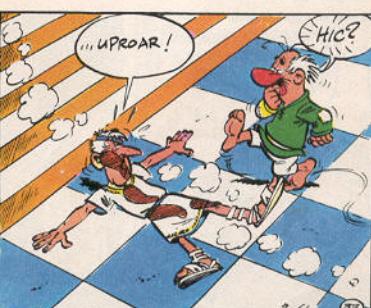
TCHAC!

CRAAAACK!

LONG LIVE
GEGOTRIGERIX!

WILL YOU SHUT UP?

YOU COMING,
OBELIX?



I'M THRSHTY... HIC!...
THAT SHTRUFF I DRANK
LEFT ME FEELING
THRSHTY!

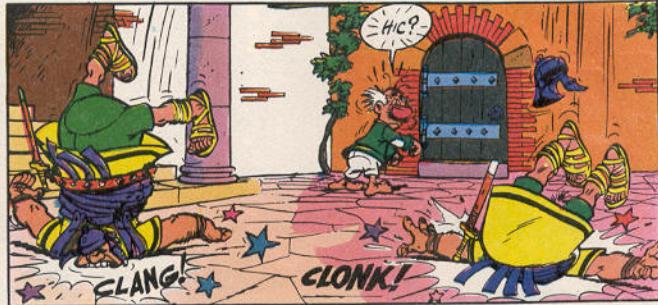
STOP THAT
MAN!



JUST LET ME
OUT! I'M GOING
TO HAVE A BEER,
AND THEN... HIC!
I'LL BE BACK!

PAF!

PAC!



NOW THEN... LONG
LIVE VERCINGETO...
LONG LIVE THINGY!

HIC!

MEANWHILE...

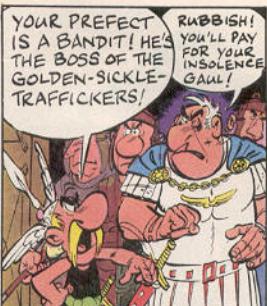
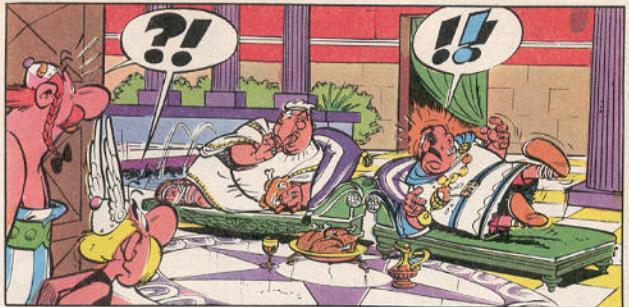
WHERE ON
EARTH IS THE
WAY OUT?

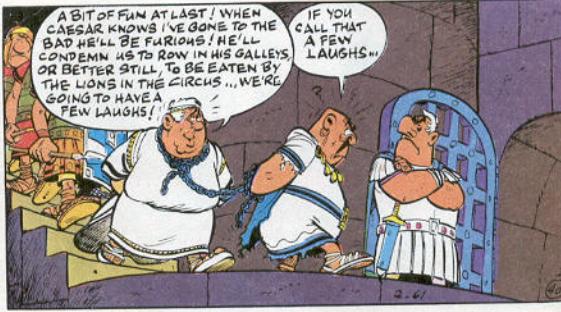
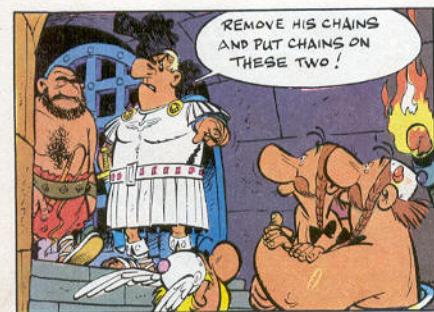
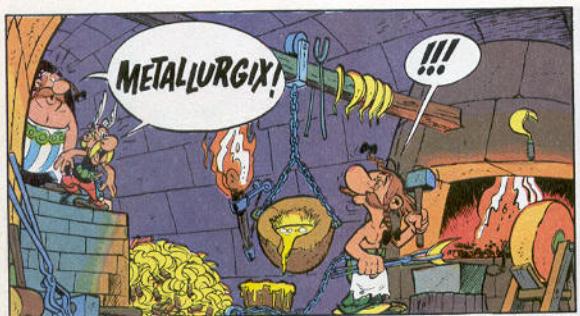


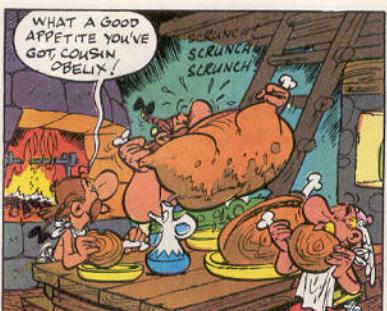
YOU CAN'T GO IN
THERE! PREFECT
SURPLUS DAIRIPROPS
IS IN THERE!

BANG!
GOOD! WE'VE
GOT A WORD OR
TWO TO SAY TO
THE PREFECT!

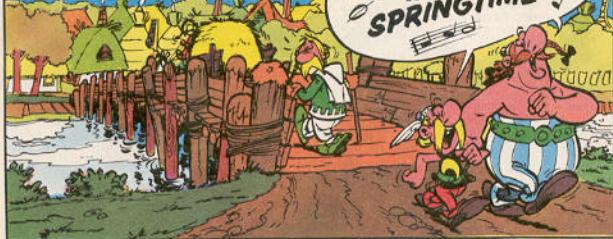




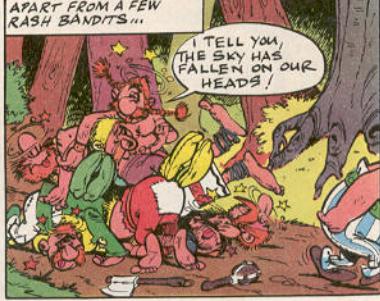




WITH THEIR GOLDEN SICKLE AT LAST,
OUR TWO FRIENDS LEAVE LUTETIA
FOR AN UNEVENTFUL JOURNEY...



APART FROM A FEW
RASH BANDITS...



...A FEW FOOLHARDY BARBARIANS...

COME ALONG,
OBELEX! DON'T
PAWGLE!



...AND SEVERAL
CARELESS WILD BOAR...



...THEIR JOURNEY,
AS WE SAW, WAS
UNEVENTFUL!

LOOK,
OBELEX,
THERE'S OUR
VILLAGE!
GREAT!



COME ON, EVERYONE!
ASTERIX AND OBELEX
ARE BACK!

THEY'LL BE
ABLE TO TELL
US WHAT'S BEING
WORN IN LUTETIA
THIS SEASON!



WELCOME BACK,
BRAVE
WARRIOR!

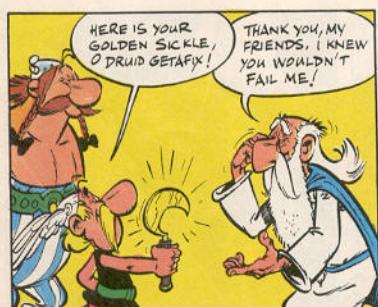
I WILL NOW COMPOSE
AN ODE FOR THIS
GLORIOUS OCCASION!

JUST YOU TRY IT!



HERE IS YOUR
GOLDEN SICKLE,
O DRUID GETAFIX!

THANK YOU, MY
FRIENDS. I KNEW
YOU WOULDN'T
FAIL ME!



ALL OUR FRIENDS GATHER TOGETHER
FOR A GREAT FEAST TO CELEBRATE
THE RETURN OF THE HEROES WITH
THE BEAUTIFUL GOLDEN SICKLE WHICH WILL
BRING GLORY AND FAME TO THE VILLAGE...

THAT'S FUNNY.
OUR BARD CACONONIX
HASN'T TURNED UP TO SING
US ONE OF HIS ODES!

HMMMA!
HMMMA!

THE
END

