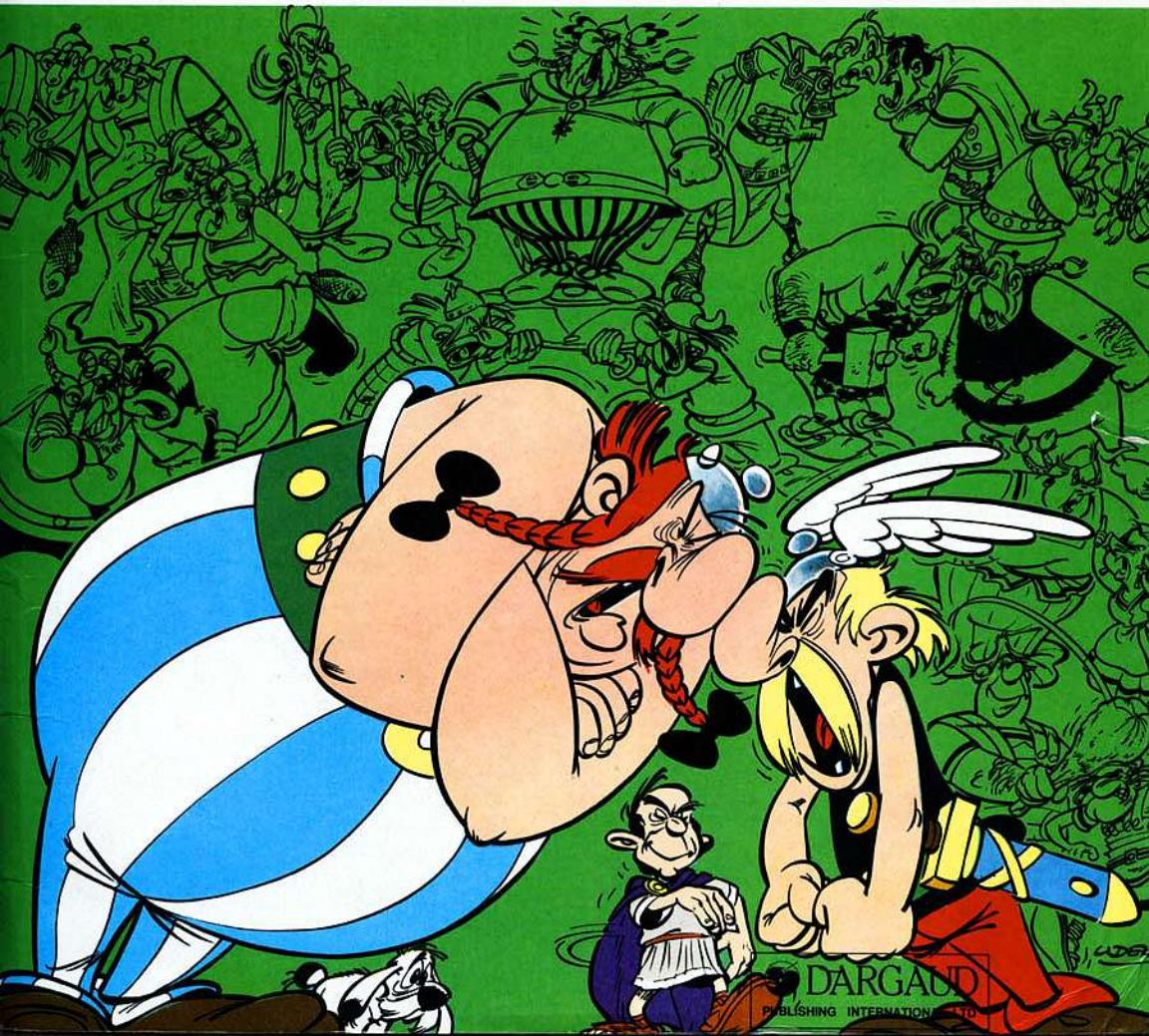


Asterix and the Roman agent

by GOSCINNY and UDERZO



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ASTERIX AND THE ROMAN AGENT

TEXT BY GOSCINNY

DRAWINGS BY UDERZO

TRANSLATED BY ANTHEA BELL AND DEREK HOCKRIDGE



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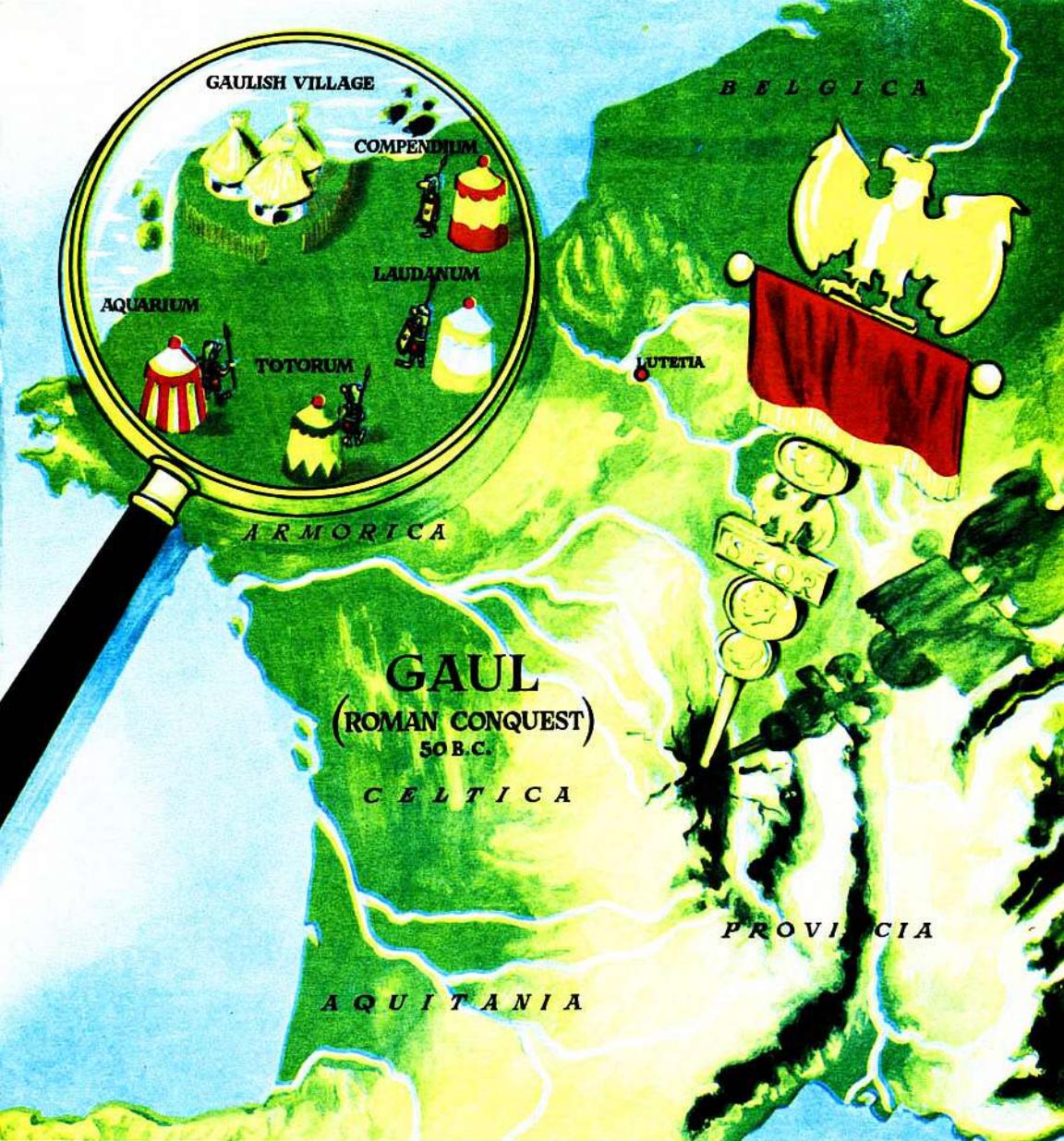
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The year is 50 BC. Gaul is entirely occupied by the Romans. Well, not entirely... One small village of indomitable Gauls still holds out against the invaders. And life is not easy for the Roman legionaries who garrison the fortified camps of Totorum, Aquarium, Laudanum and Compendium...



a few of the Gauls

Asterix, the hero of these adventures. A shrewd, cunning little warrior; all perilous missions are immediately entrusted to him. Asterix gets his superhuman strength from the magic potion brewed by the druid Getafix...



Obelix, Asterix's inseparable friend. A menhir delivery-man by trade; addicted to wild boar. Obelix is always ready to drop everything and go off on a new adventure with Asterix – so long as there's wild boar to eat, and plenty of fighting.

Getafix, the venerable village druid. Gathers mistletoe and brews magic potions. His speciality is the potion which gives the drinker superhuman strength. But Getafix also has other recipes up his sleeve...



Cacofonix, the bard. Opinion is divided as to his musical gifts. Cacofonix thinks he's a genius. Everyone else thinks he's unspeakable. But so long as he doesn't speak, let alone sing, everybody likes him...



Finally, Vitalstatistix, the chief of the tribe. Majestic, brave and hot-tempered, the old warrior is respected by his men and feared by his enemies. Vitalstatistix himself has only one fear; he is afraid the sky may fall on his head tomorrow. But as he always says, 'Tomorrow never comes.'

ALL IS PEACEFUL IN THE LITTLE
GALLO-Roman VILLAGE WE KNOW
SO WELL, AND, AS USUAL,
EVERYONE IS CHEERFUL
AND FRIENDLY...

GOOD MORNING,
OBELIX, GOOD MORNING,
DOGMATIX!

GOOD MORNING,
ASTERIX!

GOOD MORNING, CACOPONIX?
STILL LOST YOUR VOICE?

GOOD MORNING,
GERIATRIX!

GOOD MORNING,
UNHYGIENIX!

GOOD MORNING,
IMPEDIMENTA!

AND IN THE ROMAN SENATE, OLD
SENATOR STRADIVARIUS IS GETTING
ALL STRUNG UP. IN HIS WELL
MODULATED TONES, CALCULATED
TO RAISE A CROWD TO FEVER PITCH,
HE IS SETTING AN OLD SCORE WITH
CAESAR...

CAESAR STILL ASKS
US FOR MONEY AND MEN
TO WAGE WAR, AND YET
HE'S NOT EVEN CAPABLE OF
KEEPING THE PAX ROMANA
IN THE COUNTRIES HE'S
ALREADY CONQUERED!...

...THERE'S A
LITTLE VILLAGE UP
THERE IN GALL. IT
DEFIES OUR OCCUPYING
FORCES AND REFUSES TO
OBEY OUR LAWS!

LET CAESAR ENFORCE THE
POWER OF ROME IN THE OCCUPIED
TERRITORIES BEFORE HE THINKS OF NEW
CAMPAIGNS!

YES!

FOR JUPITER'S
SAKE, GET THAT
PLEB A SEAT!

HEAR!
HEAR!

A
PLEBISCITE!
GOOD
IDEA!

SO THE NEXT DAY CAESAR HAS A MEETING
OF HIS FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES AT
HIS LUXURIOUS VILLA OUTSIDE
ROME.

MON REPOS

MESA REQUIES

BEWARE OF
THE DOG

AH, THERE YOU ARE AT LAST, BRUTUS! SIT DOWN. NOW WE CAN BEGIN.

THE ROADS ARE SO BUSY AFTER THE CALENDAS...

THE SENATE WANTS TO TAKE ITS REVENGE ON ME FOR CUTTING ITS POWER. I MUST SHOW THEM WHO'S THE BOSS, AND TO DO THAT I'LL HAVE TO WIPE OUT THIS WRETCHED GAULISH VILLAGE...



THESE BARBARIANS ARE NOT INTERESTED IN MONEY. IF THEY WERE, THE MAGIC POTION WOULD HAVE BEEN ON THE MARKET LONG AGO!

THIS IS ONLY A SUGGESTION, BUT...



...THEIR STRENGTH SPRINGS FROM THEIR SOLIDARITY. IF WE COULD SOW A BIT OF DISCORD IN THE VILLAGE, THEY WOULD SPLIT UP AND THE POTION WOULDN'T MATTER ANY MORE...



I KNOW THE GAULS ARE FAMOUS FOR THEIR INCESSANT ARGUMENTS, BUT THIS LOT STICK TOGETHER THROUGH THICK AND THIN

J.C.! I'VE GOT THE VERY MAN! HE'LL SPLIT THEM UP FOR YOU!



HE USED TO HAVE A FLAT IN AN*INSULA I OWN. HE MADE SO MUCH TROUBLE IN THE BUILDING THAT THE OTHER TENANTS MANAGED TO GET HIM THROWN INTO PRISON TO BE EATEN BY THE LIONS!

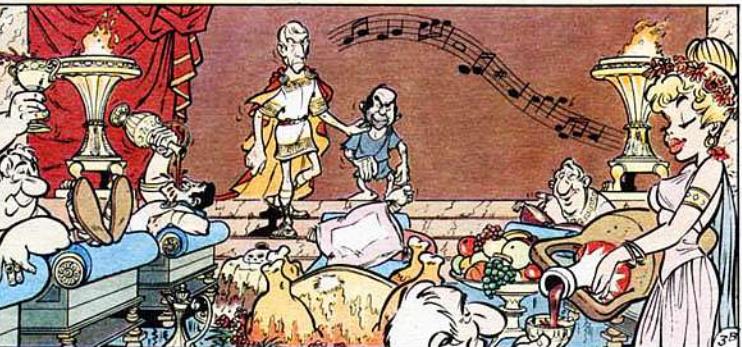
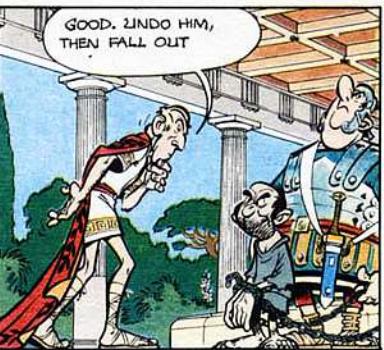
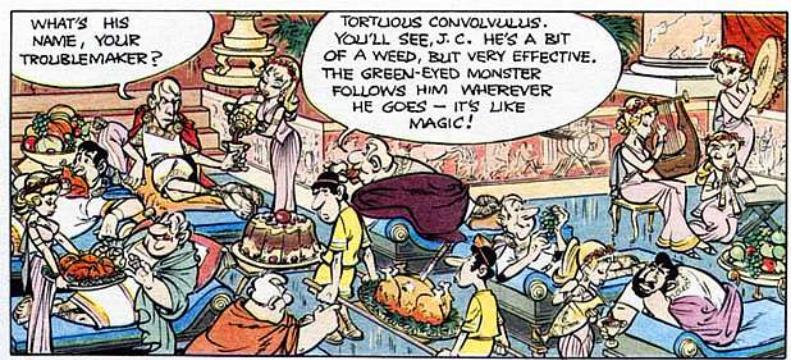
* BLOCK OF FLATS



HAVE HIM BROUGHT TO ME! NOW FOR SOME FOOD. ET TU, BRUTE!

THESE CLASSICAL ALLUSIONS ARE BEGINNING TO GET ON MY NERVES! ONE OF THESE DAYS I'LL...





YOU MEAN THIS IS THE
ANSWER TO ALL OUR PROBLEMS?
HE DOESN'T LOOK UP
TO MUCH!

OH, YES, THAT'S
RIGHT! WHEN IT'S NOT
BRUTUS'S IDEA, BRUTUS'
IS JEALOUS!

JEALOUS? MAYBE I AM JEALOUS,
BUT I DIDN'T BETRAY CAESAR!
I WAS NEVER IN THE PAY OF
POMPEY!

ME IN POMPEY'S PAY?
HE MAY HAVE BEEN,
NOT TO MENTION ANY
NAMES, AND HIM, AND HIM!
BUT I NEVER BETRAYED J.C.!

IF YOU DON'T
MIND! HE WAS
A TRAITOR, NOT ME!

YOU
OFF YOUR
HEAD?

LIAR!!!

FANCY SUSPECTING
ME! ME, WHEN I
DENOUNCED EVERYONE
ELSE!

HOW
INTERESTING!

HEE, HEE, HEE!
TRAITOR!
BARBARIAN!
DIRTY SPY!

GENTLEMEN, PLEASE!
I SHOULDN'T LIKE TO BE THE CAUSE
OF ANY DISAGREEMENT. IF, IN THE
PAST, YOU HAVE TAKEN ADVANTAGE
OF CAESAR'S GULLIBILITY...

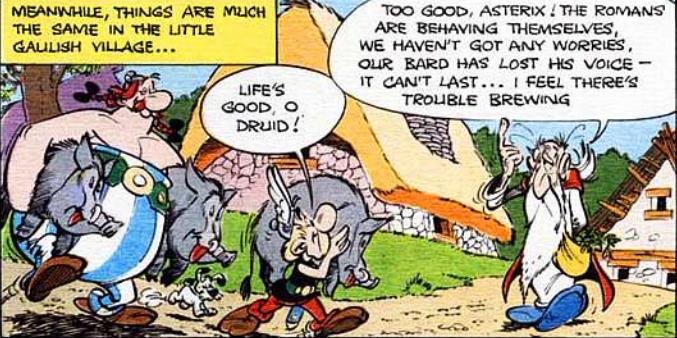
GULLIBLE,
ME ???

YOU'RE GREAT!
I'M SENDING YOU ON
A MISSION TO GAUL.
IF YOU SUCCEED YOU'LL GET
YOUR FREEDOM AND
A FORTUNE

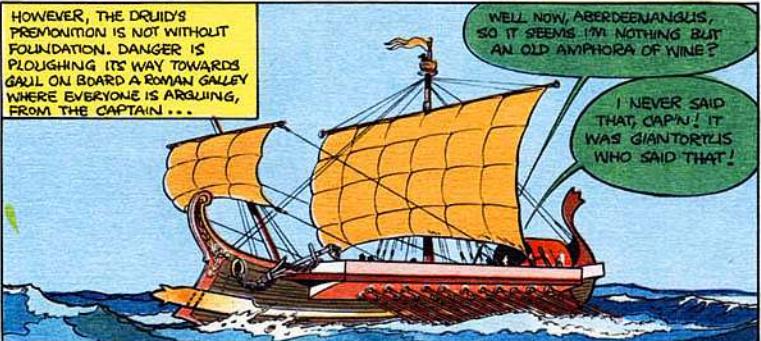
CROOK!
PROFITEER!
SCOUNDREL!

TRAITOR!

MEANWHILE, THINGS ARE MUCH THE SAME IN THE LITTLE GAULISH VILLAGE...



HOWEVER, THE DRUID'S PREMONITION IS NOT WITHOUT FOUNDATION. DANGER IS PLOUGHING ITS WAY TOWARDS GALL ON BOARD A ROMAN GALLEY WHERE EVERYONE IS ARGUING, FROM THE CAPTAIN...



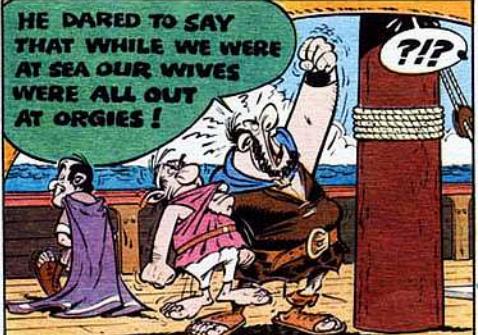
WELL, GIANTORTUS DID SAY THAT IT WAS YOU WHO SAID I WAS NOTHING BUT AN OLD AMPHORA OF WINE!



PIRATE SHIP TO PORT!



HE DARED TO SAY THAT WHILE WE WERE AT SEA OUR WIVES WERE ALL OUT AT ORGIES!



IF THAT'S THE WAY THE LAND LIES, I SHAN'T SAY ANOTHER WORD!!!



HUH! THEY'RE THE SORT OF PEOPLE WHO'D SAY I ONLY GOT INTO THE NAVY BECAUSE MY WIFE IS A CLOSE FRIEND OF JULIUS CAESAR'S SECOND COUSIN TWICE REMOVED!



ROMAN
GALLEY TO
STARBOARD!

D'YOU SEE
ANY
GAULS?

RIGHT...
**GET READY TO
BOARD HER!**

THE PIRATES
ARE GOING TO
BOARD US,
CAPTAIN! WHAT
CAN WE DO?

ARE YOU EXPECTING
A DECISION FROM AN
OLD AMPHORA OF
WINE, GIANTURTIS?

THAT'S SLANDER!
ABERDEEN ANGLUS
SPENDS HIS TIME
SLANDERING
EVERYONE!

I'VE
JUST ABOUT
HAD
ENOUGH...

HAVE YOU LOT
DOWN THERE NEARLY
FINISHED? WOULDN'T
YOUR WIVES BE
PROUD IF THEY COULD
SEE YOU NOW!

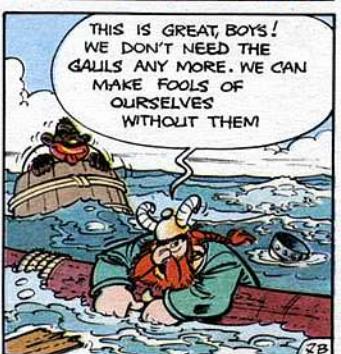
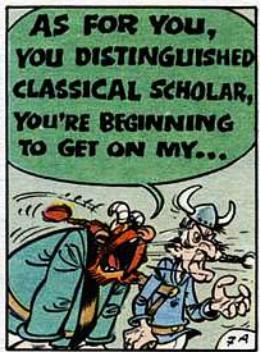
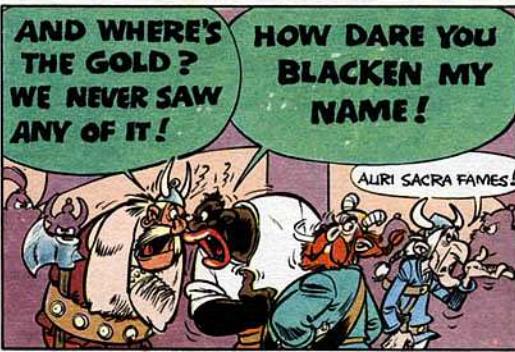
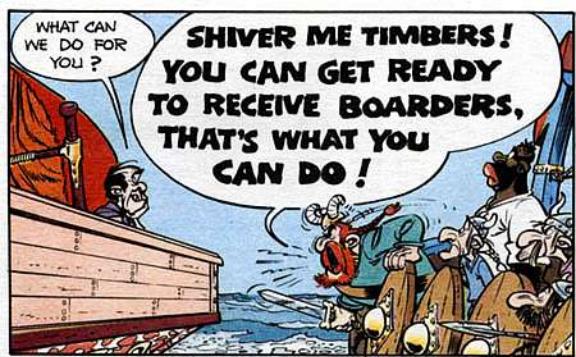
THAT'S DONE IT!
COME DOWN HERE
AND JUMP TO IT!

NO!
I PREFER TO
REMAIN ALOOF,
ALOFT!

CUT THAT MAST
DOWN!!!

HEY! WHAT
ABOUT US,
THEN?





IN THE LITTLE
GALLIISH VILLAGE,
IN CONTRAST
TO THESE
VIOLENT
EVENTS...

WE'RE GOING
TO GET THINGS READY
FOR CHIEF VITALSTATISTIK'S
BIRTHDAY
PARTY

IT WILL BE AN OCCASION
OF GENERAL GOODWILL!

THERE'LL BE HEAPS
OF BOAR, FULL OF
BONES, DOGMATIX!

I'M GOING
TO GIVE THE CHIEF
A MENHIR. WHAT
ABOUT YOU?

A SHIELD
FOR HIS
COLLECTION!

I'M GOING
TO GIVE HIM
A SWORD!

I'M GOING TO
GIVE HIM A FISH. HE CAN
STUFF IT!

DON'T LET ON!
REMEMBER, WE
WANT TO GIVE
VITALSTATISTIK A
NICE SURPRISE...

WHAT A
WONDERFUL SURPRISE!
MY DEAR
FRIENDS...

... I AM AT A
LOSS FOR WORDS, BUT
LET ME TRY TO EXPRESS
ALL THE JOY I
FEEL ...

YOU COULD
HELP ME PLUCK THIS
CHICKEN, INSTEAD OF
SPOILING SUCH RUBBISH!

IMPEDIMENTA, IN MY
POSITION AS CHIEF, AS THE
MOST IMPORTANT MAN IN
THE VILLAGE, I DO HAVE
CERTAIN OBLIGATIONS...

YES, WHEN IT COMES
TO STUFFING YOURSELF
WITH FOOD AND DRINK
ANY EXCUSE WILL DO,
BUT WHEN IT COMES
TO WORKING...

WELL, YOU'RE PROUD OF
BEING THE CHIEF'S WIFE,
AREN'T YOU? FIRST LADY
OF THE VILLAGE! SOME OF
MY GLORY RUBS OFF ON TO
YOU!

YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN!
WE'RE GOING TO BE LANDED
WITH A LOT OF STUPID PRESENTS.
WE COULD NEVER EXPECT YOUR
FRIENDS TO GIVE YOU ANYTHING
WORTHWHILE, OH NO! NO ARTISTIC
SENSE! JUST SAVAGES...



IN THE TENT OF THE CENTURION IN COMMAND
OF THE ROMAN CAMP OF AQUARIUM...

... AND THAT POTION OF THEIRS
MUST BE STRONG STUFF- THEY'RE
FULL OF TEAM SPIRIT!

I KNOW ALL THAT,
FELIX PLATYPUS. BUT YOU
KNOW WHAT CAESAR SAID:
YOU MUST TAKE YOUR
ORDERS FROM ME!

I DON'T OBJECT TO THAT
AT ALL, CONVOLVULUS.
I JUST DON'T THINK THAT YOU'LL
MANAGE TO SPLIT THEM
UP...

YOU HAVE GIVEN ME
THE NAME AND DESCRIPTION
OF EVERY ONE OF THOSE
NUT CASES. NOW, I
NEED THAT!

THAT?

IT'S JUST THAT
THIS VASE IS PART OF THE
SPOILS FROM ONE OF
MY CAMPAIGNS...

YES, YOUR JUNIOR
OFFICERS TOLD ME YOU
HAD SOME INDIVIDUAL
IDEAS ABOUT SHARING
OUT THE BOOTY

GET ALL MY
JUNIOR
OFFICERS
FALLEN IN!

SOON
AFTERWARDS...

WHAT D'YOU
WANT, ROMAN?

I HAVE
BROUGHT A
PRESENT TO THE
MOST IMPORTANT
MAN IN THE
VILLAGE!

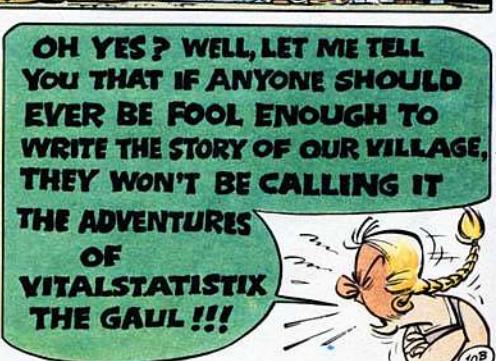
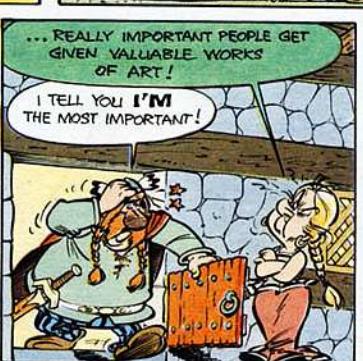
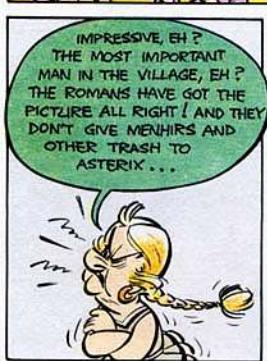
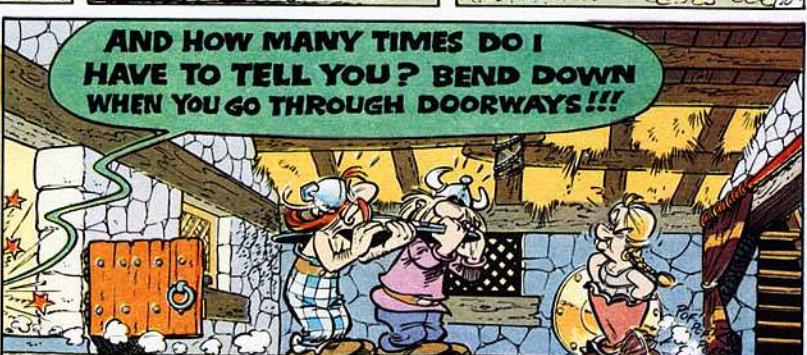
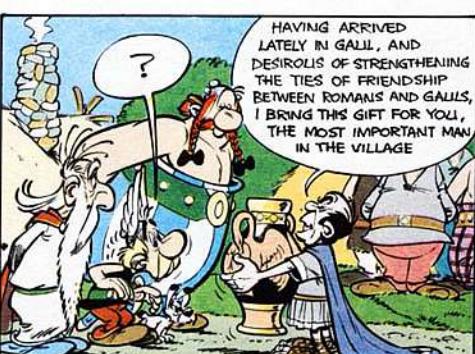
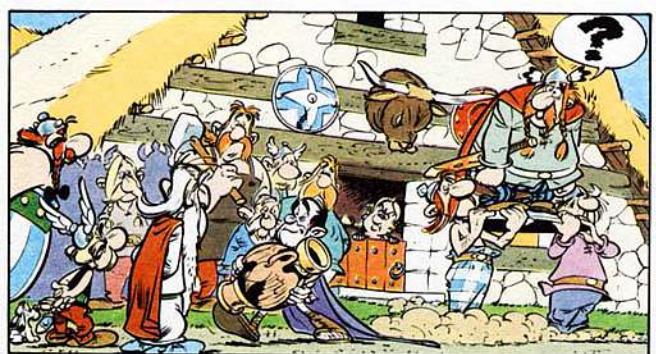
AH!

... AND HE'S
BROUGHT A
VALUABLE VASE!

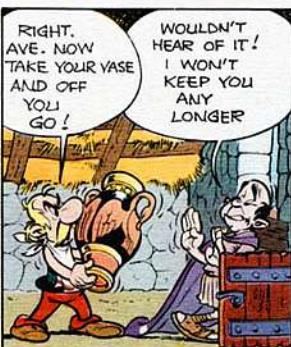
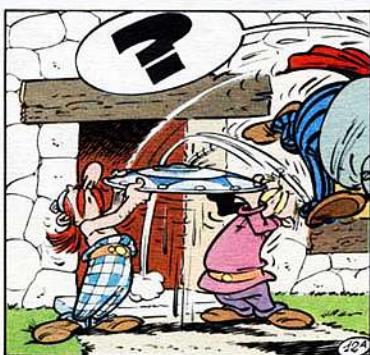
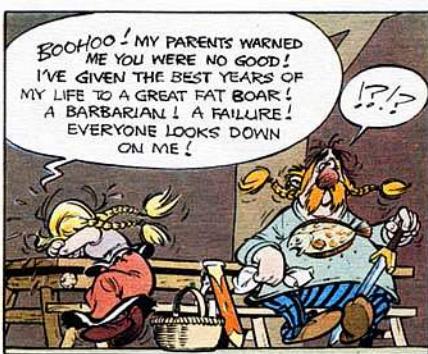
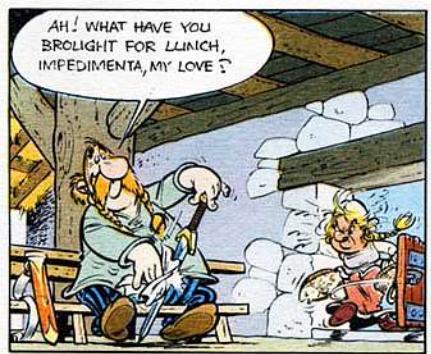
CLICK!
PORTERS!

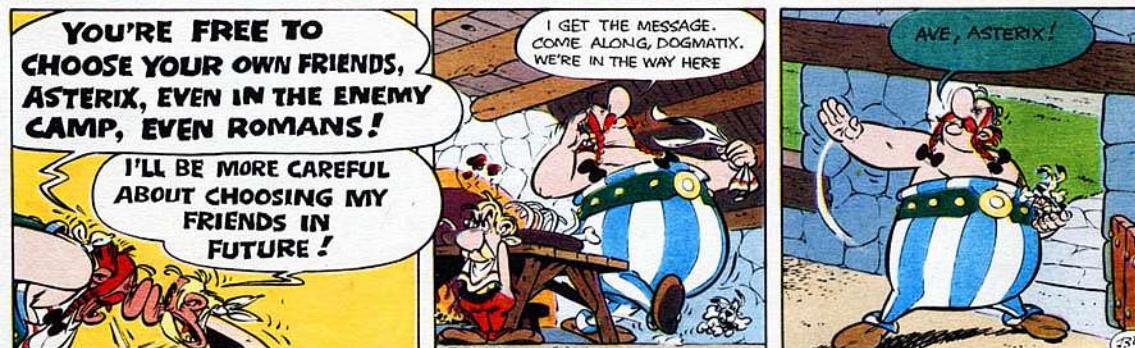
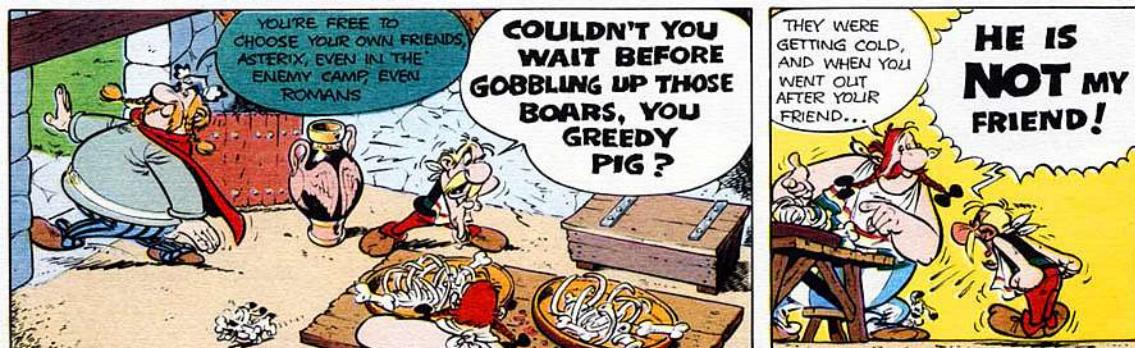
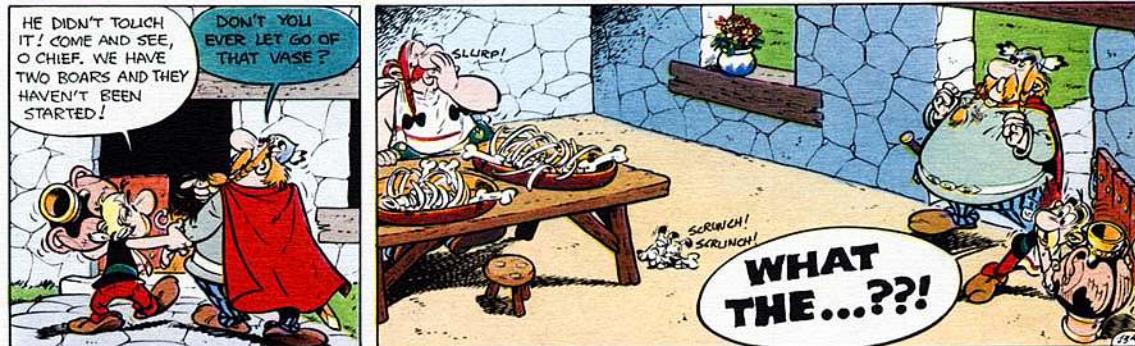
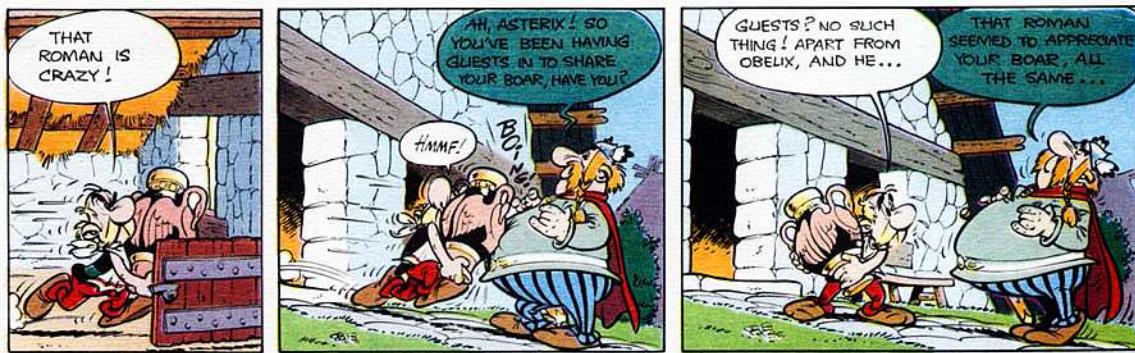
HERE HE COMES! RIGHT,
BOYS! SHOW A BIT OF
DIGNITY! WE DON'T WANT
TO LOOK AS IF WE'RE
EXPECTING HIM!

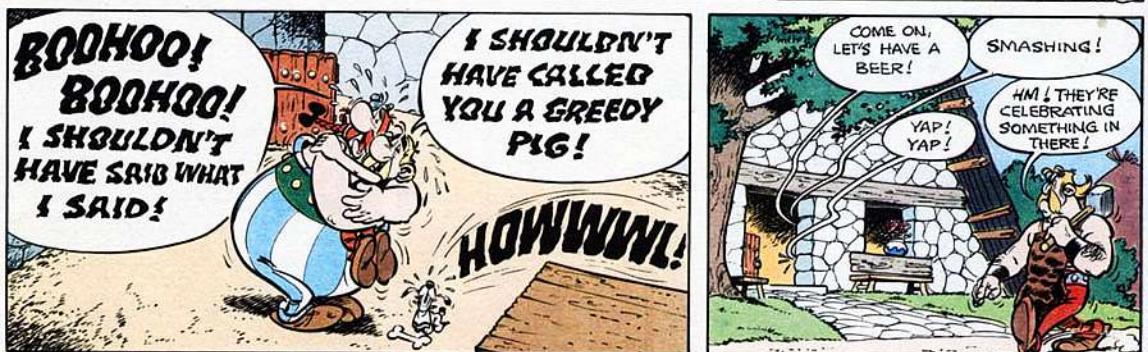












I HOPE
I'M NOT
LATE?

OF COURSE
NOT

NOT TOO MUCH,
JUST A LITTLE!

OH, IT'S ONLY MILK,
SUGAR, EGGS,
FLOUR AND BOAR FAT—
NOT AT ALL
FATTENING

IMPEDIMENTA,
ABOUT THIS
MORNING... IT WAS
ONLY A BIT OF FUN...
A JOKE

OF COURSE! LET'S
TALK ABOUT MORE
IMPORTANT THINGS...

MY HUSBAND THE CHIEF—
JULIUS CAESAR NOMINATED
HIM A SENATOR, BUT
HE REFUSED, OF COURSE—
WELL, HE'S GIVING A
GREAT DEAL OF THOUGHT
TO ASTERIX AND HIS
FRIENDSHIP WITH THAT ROMAN

YES, MY HUSBAND
FULLAUTOMATIX TOLD ME
THEY WERE HAVING A GOOD
TIME. HE HEARD LAUGHTER
AND SINGING. THEY SEEMED
TO HAVE BEEN DRINKING!

HOW DREADFUL!
YOU KNOW, I'VE
ALWAYS HAD MY
DOUBTS ABOUT
ASTERIX. A MAN
OF HIS AGE,
AND STILL A
BACHELOR...

HOW OLD
IS HE
EXACTLY?

GOODNESS KNOWS!
MY HUSBAND
GERIATRIX SAYS HE'S
NOT SO YOUNG
AS HE LOOKS!

MMM... AND HIS
FRIEND OBELIX?
DO YOU THINK HE'S
A GOOD INFLUENCE?
ALL THAT GREEDY PIG
THINKS OF IS HIS
FOOD!

THE TROUBLE
IS THAT ASTERIX
IS OUR DRUID
GETAFIX'S FAVORITE,
AND HE KNOWS
A LOT OF
SECRETS...

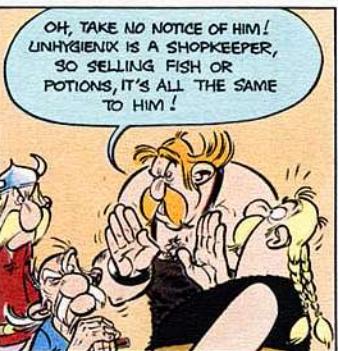
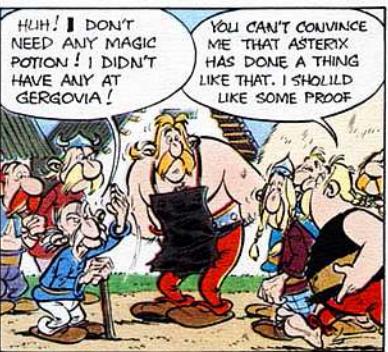
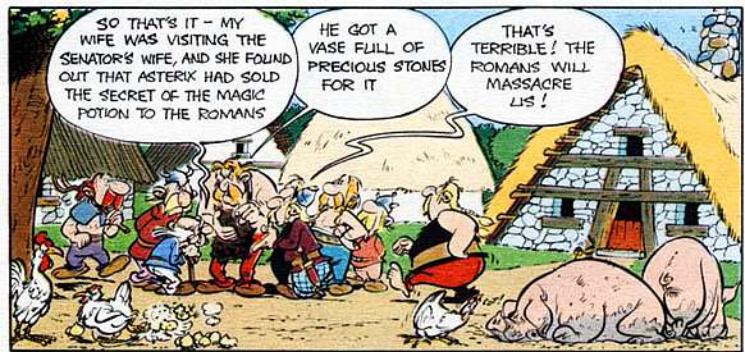
THE SECRET
OF THE MAGIC POTION
FOR EXAMPLE?

MY LIPS ARE
SEALED

AND SOON
AFTERWARDS...

... SO ASTERIX HAS
SOLD THE SECRET OF
THE MAGIC POTION TO
THE ROMANS? THESE
YOUNG PEOPLE!
I ASK YOU!





I'M WORRIED
ABOUT THE VILLAGERS'
ATTITUDE... SURELY
THEY DON'T SUSPECT ME
JUST BECAUSE OF
THAT ROMAN'S
VISIT!

HM... SLANDER CAN
BE DANGEROUS. TOTLATICIS
ALONE KNOWS WHAT IDEAS
THEY'RE DREAMING UP!

BUT NONE OF THAT MATTERS!
THE CHIEF'S BIRTHDAY BANQUET
IS THIS VERY EVENING. THAT
WILL BRING EVERYBODY
TOGETHER AGAIN

BUT THE DRUID GETAFIX IS LINDLY OPTIMISTIC...
IN THE VILLAGE, EVERYONE SUSPECTS
EVERYONE ELSE...



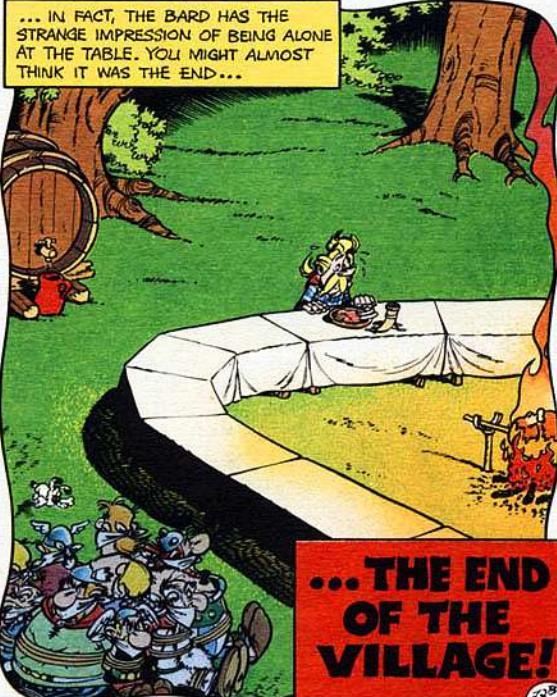
THE ONLY ONE WHO IS UNAWARE OF
THIS SAD STATE OF AFFAIRS IS THE
BARD CACOPONIX, WITH HIS HEAD IN
THE CLOUDS...



AND THAT EVENING, DURING
THE BANQUET, NO ONE IS
SPEAKING TO ANYBODY ELSE...



... IN FACT, THE BARD HAS THE
STRANGE IMPRESSION OF BEING ALONE
AT THE TABLE. YOU MIGHT ALMOST
THINK IT WAS THE END...



... THE END
OF THE
VILLAGE!

NEXT DAY, A ROMAN PATROL IS SCOUTING AROUND IN THE FOREST, TAKING NO CHANCES...

FOOTSTEPS!

LET'S HIDE IN THAT TREE OVER THERE!

OUCH!
LET'S USE A DIFFERENT TREE!

THERE'S NO TIME! SSH!

IT'S VERY KIND OF YOU TO COME AND HELP ME CHECK MY SNAres, FULLIAUTOMATIX!

I WANTED A QUIET WORD WITH YOU, AWAY FROM THE OTHERS...

YOU'RE AN EXPERIENCED CHAP, GERIATRIX... IF THE ROMANS DO HAVE THE MAGIC POTION, IT'S VERY SERIOUS... MY WIFE THINKS THE TIME HAS COME TO LEAVE THE DISTRICT

UH! THE ROMANS DON'T SCARE ME WITH THEIR MAGIC POTION. I'M READY TO FIGHT AGAIN, AS WE DID AT GERGOVIA!

OUCH! SSH! OOH!

HAVE WE GOT THE MAGIC POTION?

SURELY WE'D KNOW!

BY THE WAY, BOYS, NOW THE GALLS HAVE GONE, SHALL WE GET DOWN FROM THIS TREE?

YES, BECAUSE OF THE WASPS!

BACK AT AQUARIUM...

**WE'VE GOT THE MAGIC POTION!
WE'VE GOT THE MAGIC POTION!!**



WHAT'S GOING ON HERE, BY JUPITER?

WE'VE FOUND OUT WE'VE GOT THE SECRET OF THE MAGIC POTION...

ALL THE LADS ARE ASKING WHY YOU DON'T GIVE US ANY, INSTEAD OF LETTING US GET BASHED ABOUT BY THOSE GALLISH NUTS!

TEEHEE!
YOUR MAGIC POTION IS ME! .

A CAULDRON,
QUICK!
GET HIM
STEWED!

NO THANKS! I'M NOT EATING THAT, I NEVER TOUCH IT!

SIMMER DOWN!
EVERYTHING IS GOING ACCORDING TO PLAN!

WELL SPREAD IT ABOIT THAT WE DO HAVE THE MAGIC POTION, AND I PROMISE YOU THE GALLS WILL SOON SPIT UP AND GO AWAY

WE ARE SOLDIERS! WE DON'T LIKE THE DEVIOLIS WAYS OF CIVIL SERVANTS! WE PREFER HONOURABLE BATTLES, THE CLASH OF ARMS, THE CLARION CALL OF BUCINAS...

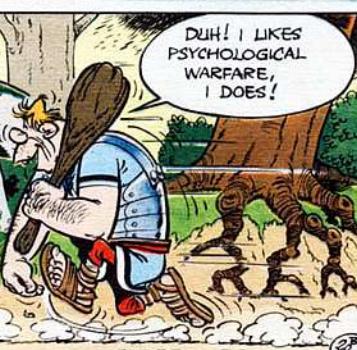
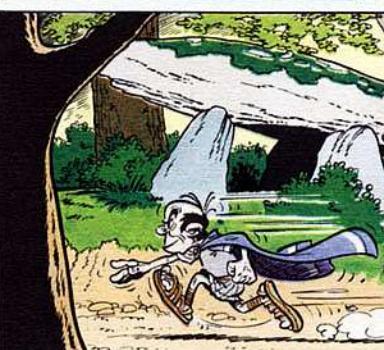
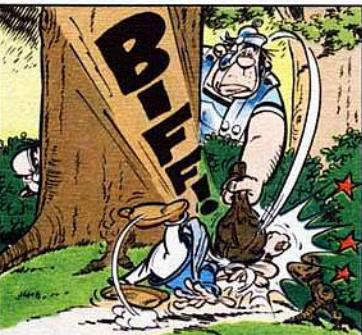
...BLOOD,
TOIL,
TEARS
AND...

RIGHT,
WHAT DO WE DO,
CONVOLVILLUS?

COME WITH ME.
I'LL TELL YOU MY PLANS

???

I'VE CHOSEN YOU FOR THIS MISSION, MAGNUMOPUS, BECAUSE YOU HAVE ALL THE NECESSARY QUALITIES FOR PARTICIPATING IN PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE...



**ALESIA!
IT'S ALESIA
ALL OVER
AGAIN!**

**THEY'VE
GOT THE
MAGIC POTION!**

THE ROMAN'S ATTACKED ME! THEY'VE GOT SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH! I WASN'T BEATEN EASILY, AND I MANAGED TO SNATCH THIS TROPHY. ONLY THE MAGIC POTION COULD HAVE MADE THEM STRONG ENOUGH TO OVERCOME ME!

THAT PROVES IT! THEY'VE GOT THE POTION!

OUT OF THE QUESTION!
ONLY OUR DRUID KNOWS ITS SECRET!

HE'S NOT THE
ONLY ONE
NOW!

HAVE YOU ALL GONE MAD,
BY TOLITATIS? YOU DON'T NEED
MAGIC POTION TO KNOCK
GERIATRIX OUT!

WHAT'S THAT?

ALL THE SAME, A ROMAN
WOULD HAVE TO BE PRETTY SURE
OF HIMSELF TO ATTACK EVEN
THIS OLD RELIC!

LOOK
HERE....

AND LOOK AT THAT TINY LITTLE HELMET!
THE LEGIONARY WHO WORE IT MUST
HAVE BEEN A PROPER TITCH! WE
ALWAYS KNEW GERIATRIX HAD SMALL
LATIN...

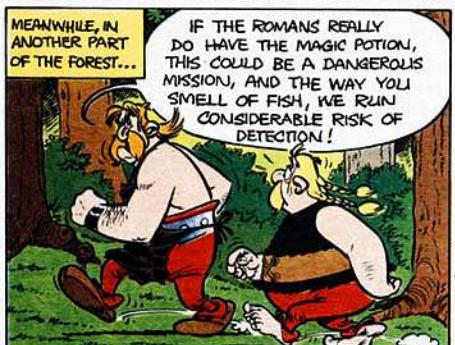
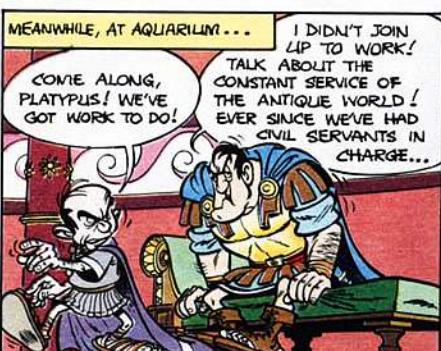
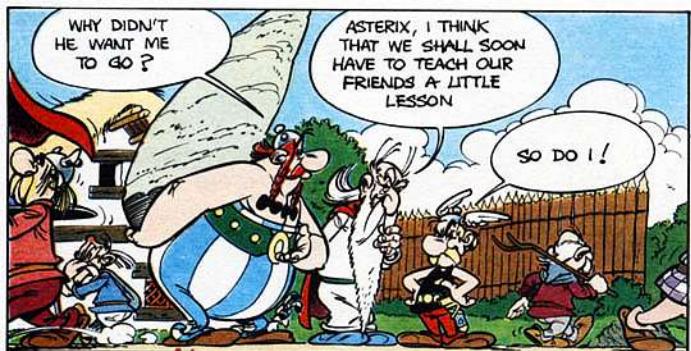
... BUT SURELY
EVEN GERIATRIX COULD
HAVE MASTERED ANY
LATIN THAT SMALL!

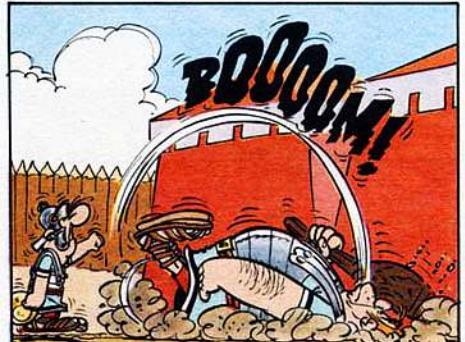
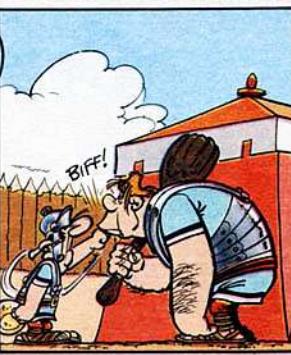
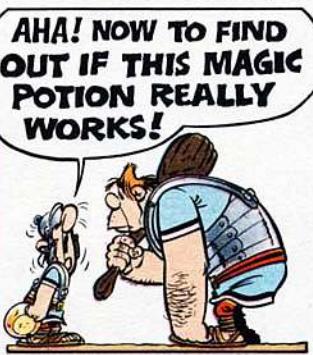
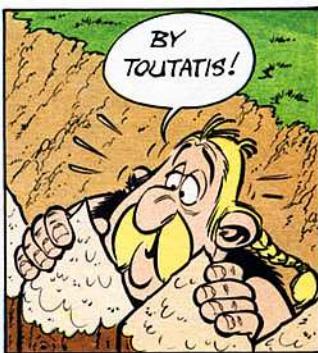
**AND YOU
KNOW WHAT
GERIATRIX
SAYS TO YOU
?!?**

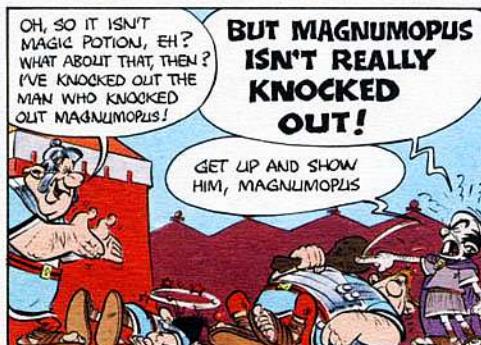
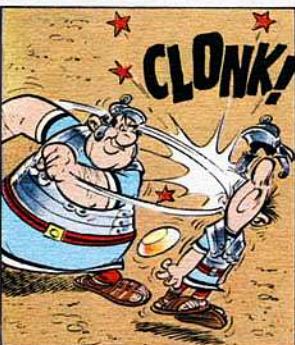
WE MUST FIND
OUT FOR SURE WHETHER
THE ROMANS HAVE
THE MAGIC POTION.

I'LL GO AND ASK THEM
IF YOU LIKE

NO, NOT YOU.
UNHYGIENIX AND
FULLIAUTOMATIX,
YOU GO!







THEY'VE GOT IT!
THE ROMANS HAVE GOT THE MAGIC POTION! WE SAW THEM!

THAT'S RIDICULOUS!
HOW COULD THEY HAVE
MANAGED TO FIND OUT
THE SECRET?

WE'VE BEEN SEEING A LOT OF
ROMANS AROUND THE VILLAGE
LATELY

ARE YOU
ACCUSING ME OF
GIVING THE ROMANS
THE SECRET OF THE
MAGIC POTION?

AND HOW ABOUT
YOU, VITALSTATIX?
ARE YOU ACCUSING
ME OF TELLING
ASTERIX THE SECRET
THE SECRET THAT
MAY ONLY BE
HANDED DOWN
FROM DRUID TO
DRUID, BY WORD
OF MOUTH?

ER... WELL...

ALL RIGHT. I
GET THE MESSAGE.
I'M LEAVING
THE VILLAGE

ME
TOO
WELL, THEN,
ME TOO

BUT DRUID...
IF YOU WALK OUT ON US
WE WON'T HAVE ANY
MAGIC POTION!

ALL YOU HAD
TO DO WAS FALL
IN IT WHEN YOU
WERE BABIES!

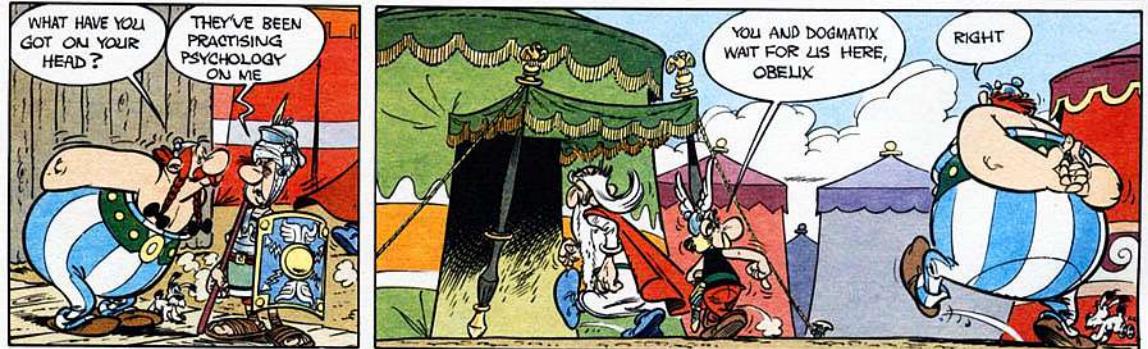
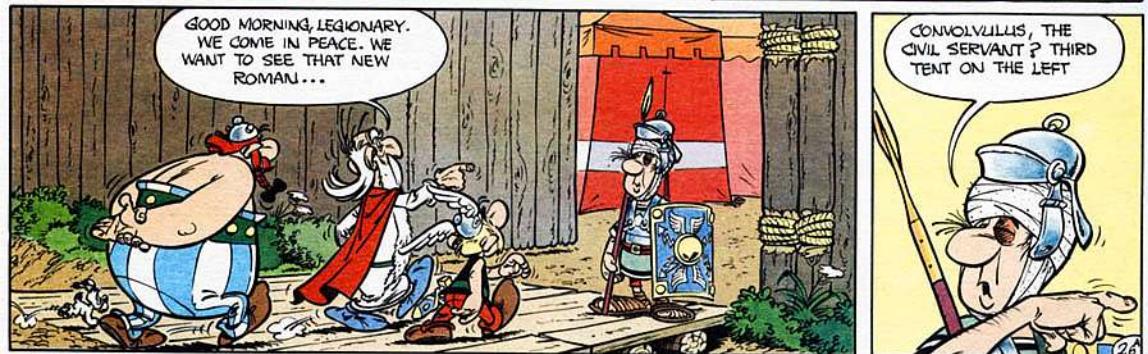
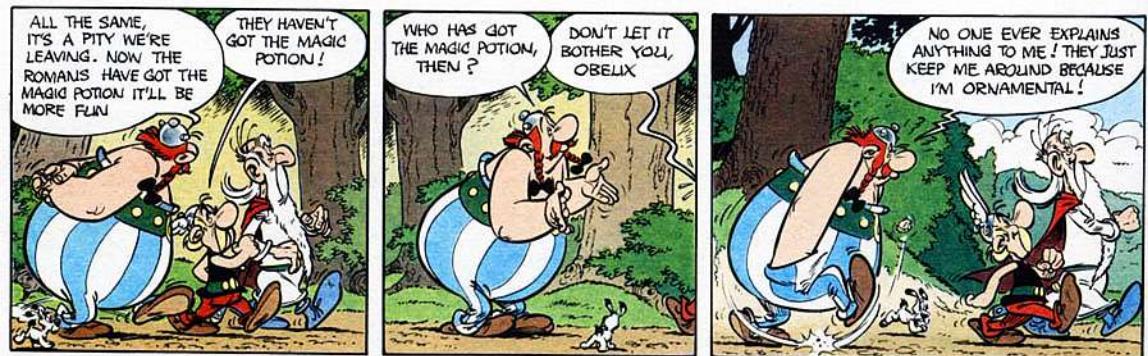
SO THERE!

I WONDER IF WE MAY JUST POSSIBLY
HAVE DONE A SILLY THING, BOYS...

YOU SHOULD
HAVE STOPPED
THEM, SENATOR

**STOP CALLING
ME SENATOR,
IDIOT! GET
OUT OF MY
SIGHT!**

I FEEL
VERY LOW...



YOU!?

YES, US. WE'VE
COME TO TELL
YOU THAT YOU'VE
WON!

YOU'VE SUCCEEDED IN
SOWING DISCORD IN OUR
VILLAGE BY SPREADING
LIES AND SLANDER

WH... WHAT ARE YOU
GOING TO DO TO ME?

NOTHING. WE'VE
JUST COME TO TELL YOU
WE DESPISE YOU. WE'RE NOT
INTERESTED IN YOU OR THE
VILLAGERS WHO WERE
SO READY TO BELIEVE
YOUR LIES

WE'RE LEAVING THESE
PARTS, ALONG WITH OBELIX
AND THE MAGIC POTION!

I CHECKED UP ON
IT! THEY HAVEN'T GOT
THE MAGIC POTION. THEY'RE
AS SOFT AS EVER

LET'S GET OUT OF
THIS CAMP

DID YOU SEE THAT, DOGMATIX?
NO ONE'S GOT THE MAGIC
POTION NOW, AND THEY'RE
LAUGHING!

WE CAN SEE EVERYTHING
THAT GOES ON IN THE
CAMP FROM OUR VANTAGE
POINT IN THIS TREE

**I'VE DONE IT! IT WORKED!
THE DRUID, THE DWARF AND
THE MONSTER HAVE LEFT
THE VILLAGE!**

EXPLAIN YOURSELF,
CONVOLVULUS. YOU'RE
MAKING LESS SENSE
ALL THE TIME

NOW THAT THOSE THREE GAULS
HAVE GONE, THE OTHERS WILL BE
HARMLESS. NO MORE DRUID, NO
MORE MAGIC POTION!

**I GET
IT!**

SOUND THE BUCINAS AND
TRUMPETS! TO ARMS! EVERYONE
FALL IN! ALL ABLE-BODIED
PERSONNEL TO REVIVE
THOSE WHO WERE
BRAINWASHED!

**TANTANTARA
TARAA!**

AND WHAT,
MAY I ASK,
IS THAT?

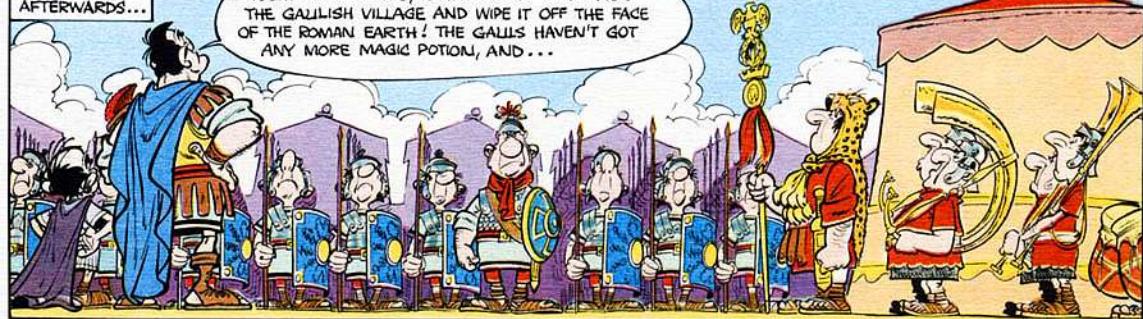
WELL, SINCE THERE
ARE SOME WHO SAY
WE HAVEN'T GOT THE
MAGIC POTION, WE
THOUGHT PSYCHOLOGICAL
WARF...

**THAT WILL DO! YOU'RE
IN THE ROMAN ARMY
NOW!**

**STAND TO ATTENTION!
NO FALLING OUT OF LINE!
YOU WILL MASSACRE
ACCORDING TO THE RULES!
I DON'T WANT ANY
FANCY NOTIONS HERE! GO
AND GET YOUR WEAPONS!**

SOON
AFTERWARDS...

RIGHT! LEGIONARIES, WE ARE ABOUT TO ATTACK THE GALLISH VILLAGE AND WIPE IT OFF THE FACE OF THE ROMAN EARTH! THE GALLS HAVEN'T GOT ANY MORE MAGIC POTION, AND...



BUT... ER...
HAVE WE
GOT THE MAGIC
POTION,
THEN?

YES, OF COURSE
WE HAVE!
NO, OF COURSE
WE HAVEN'T!

YES,
WE HAVE!

I TELL YOU
WE HAVEN'T!

BUT
HOMUNCULUS...

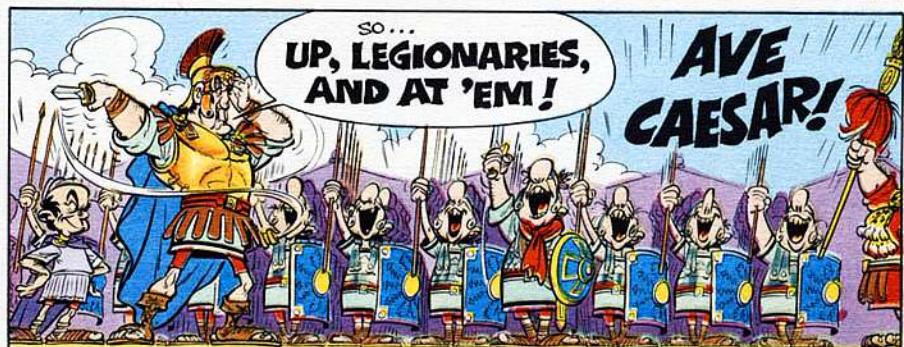
LOOK, JOKING
APART, HAVE WE
GOT IT OR HAVE
WE NOT?



LISTEN! NO ONE'S GOT
THE MAGIC POTION, BUT
WE OUTNUMBER THE
GALLS TWENTY TO ONE!
WE SHALL WIN EASILY,
AND CAESAR WILL
REWARD US!

SO...
**UP, LEGIONARIES,
AND AT 'EM!**

**AVE
CAESAR!**



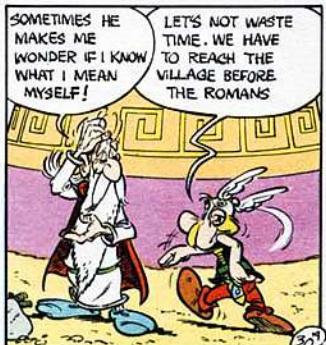
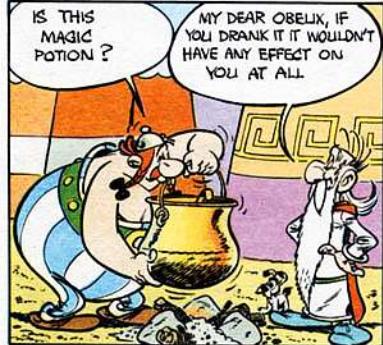
I SEE THAT MIXING WITH
US HAS MADE YOU A
CUNNING STRATEGIST!

**TANTANTAR!
TARAA! BONG!
BONG! -**



IT'S WORKING LIKE A
CHARM! THEY'VE LEFT
THE CAMP! OFF WE
GO!





SURE ENOUGH, THE LEGIONARIES ARE PASSING THROUGH THE FOREST IN THE DIRECTION OF THE VILLAGE...

I SAY, THE LADS WANT TO KNOW HOW THE LOOT IS GOING TO BE SHARED OUT THIS TIME, BECAUSE AT MUNDA...

WELL, WHAT ABOUT MUNDA? WHAT HAPPENED AT MUNDA?

THE LOOT WAS PERFECTLY FAIRLY DISTRIBUTED... LET'S SEE, THERE WERE THOSE TWELVE VALUABLE VASES...

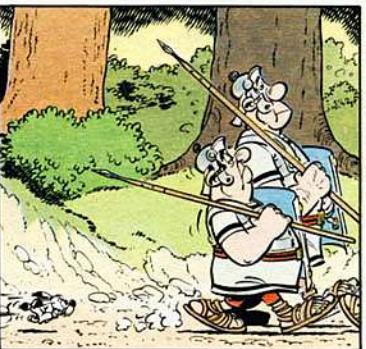
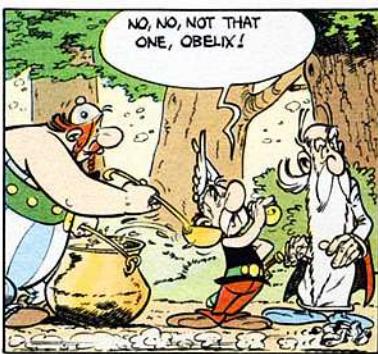
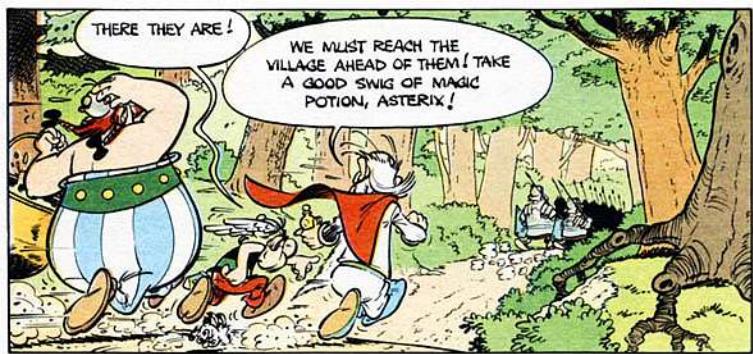


LET'S NOT COUNT ON VALUABLE VASES... YOU MIGHT GET A NASTY JAR!

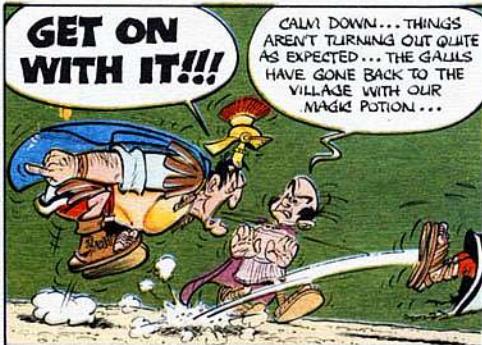
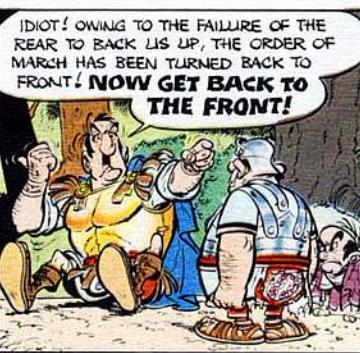
SURE ENOUGH, IN THE VILLAGE, THE GALLS ARE GETTING READY TO PROVE THAT THEY ARE NOT BY ANY MEANS OLD CROCKS...

WITH OR WITHOUT POTION,
WE'LL SHOW THEM WHO WE ARE!





ASTERIX, OBELIX AND GETAFIX ARE COMING BACK!!!



GOOD OF YOU TO
COME BACK... GETAFIX,
I WONDER IF I COULD POSSIBLY
ASK YOU TO MAKE A
LITTLE MAGIC
POTION...

MAGIC POTION ?
HERE YOU ARE ! WE'VE
BEEN TO THE ROMAN
CAMP TO GET IT

THAT'S RIGHT.
FULLAUTOMATIX AND
UNHYGIENIX TOLD YOU
IT WAS MAGIC POTION -
THEY SAW THE ROMANS
DRINKING IT

COME ON, THEN,
HAVE SOME !
WHO'S FIRST ?

IT DOESN'T TASTE
OF ANYTHING
MUCH

IT MAY WORK...
TRY
UPROOTING
THAT TREE

GIVE HIM A HAND,
ASTERIX !

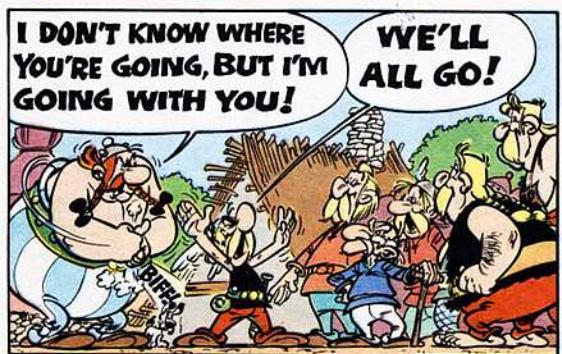
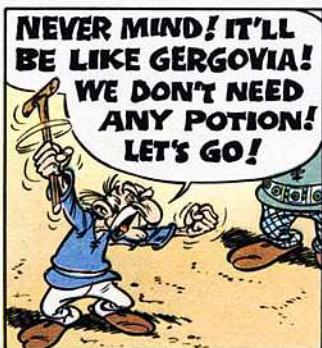
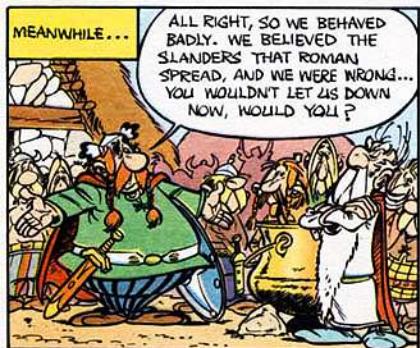
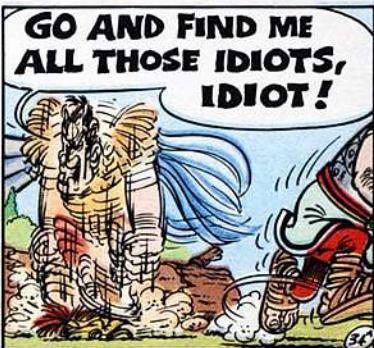
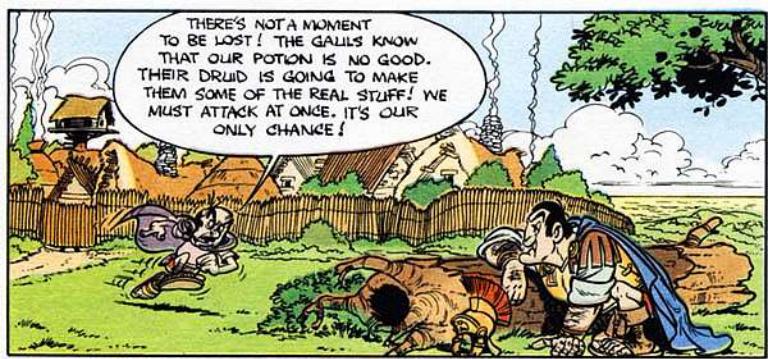
WITH PLEASURE,
O DRUID !

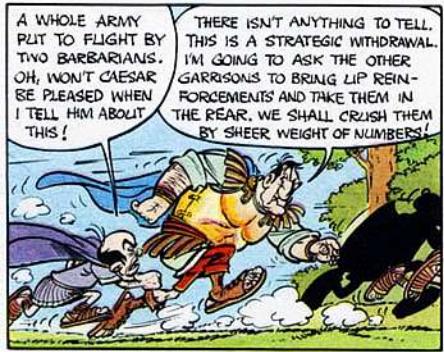
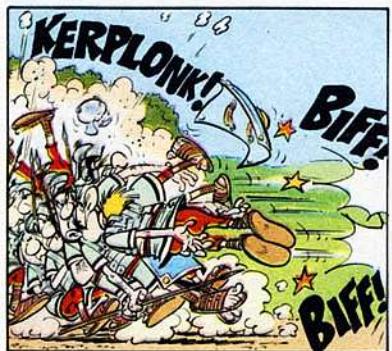
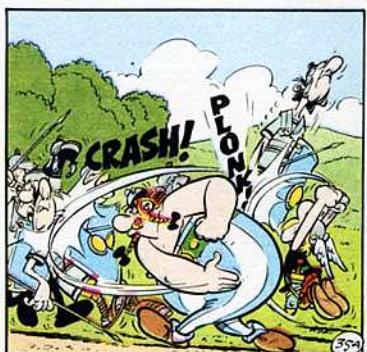
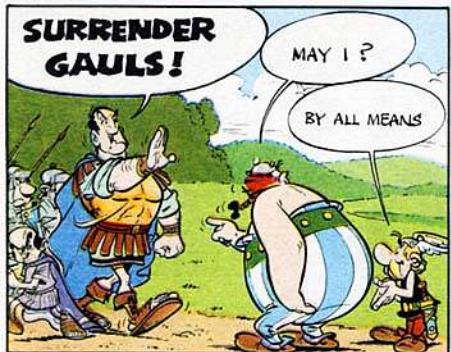
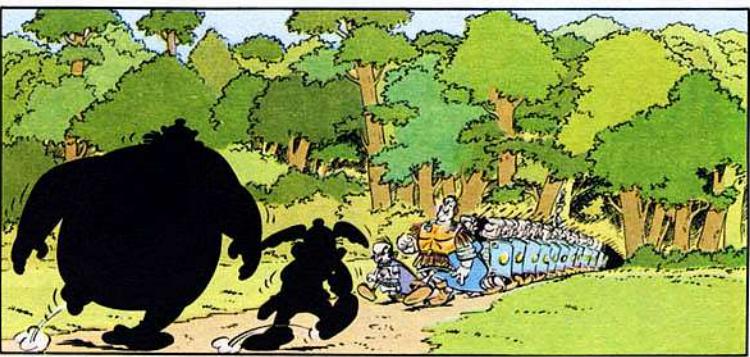
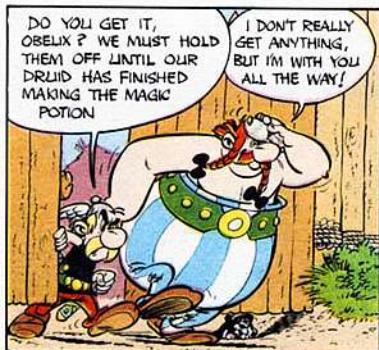
CRASH !

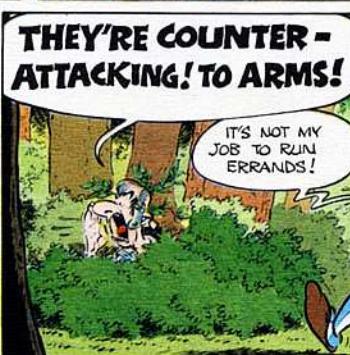
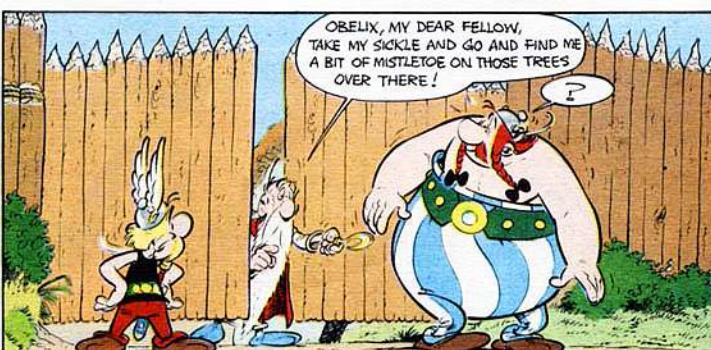
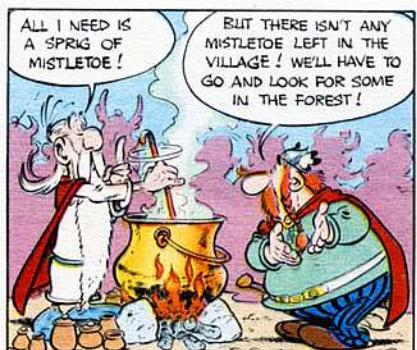
OHH ! I'M NOT
BOthering YOU,
SO KINDLY LET ME
COMPOSE MY
BALLADS IN
PEACE !!!

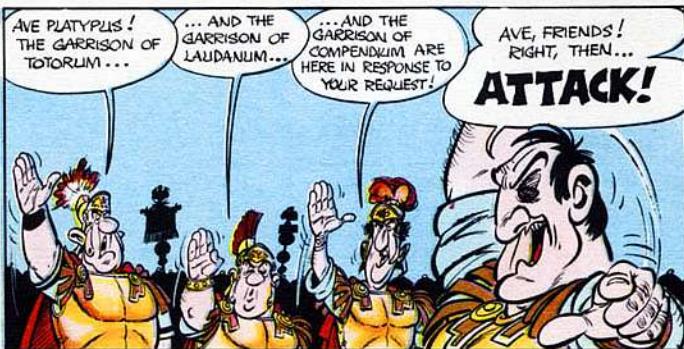
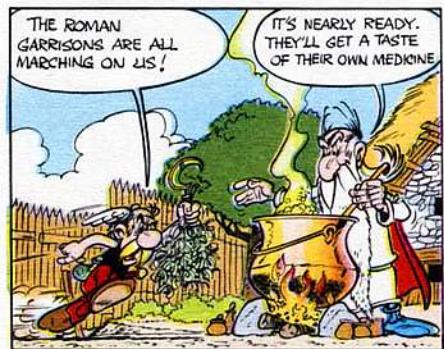
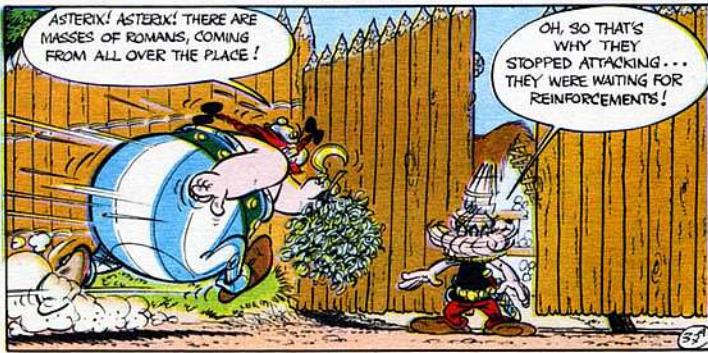
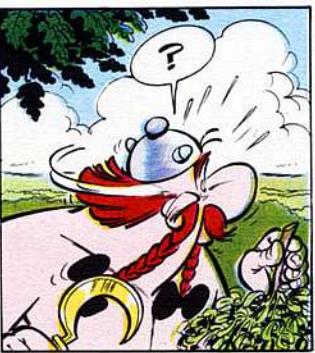
THAT'S THE POTION
WE NEED,
GETAFIX

OH, SO YOU DON'T
THINK THE ROMANS'
POTION IS THE SAME
AS MINE,
VITALSTATISTIX ?



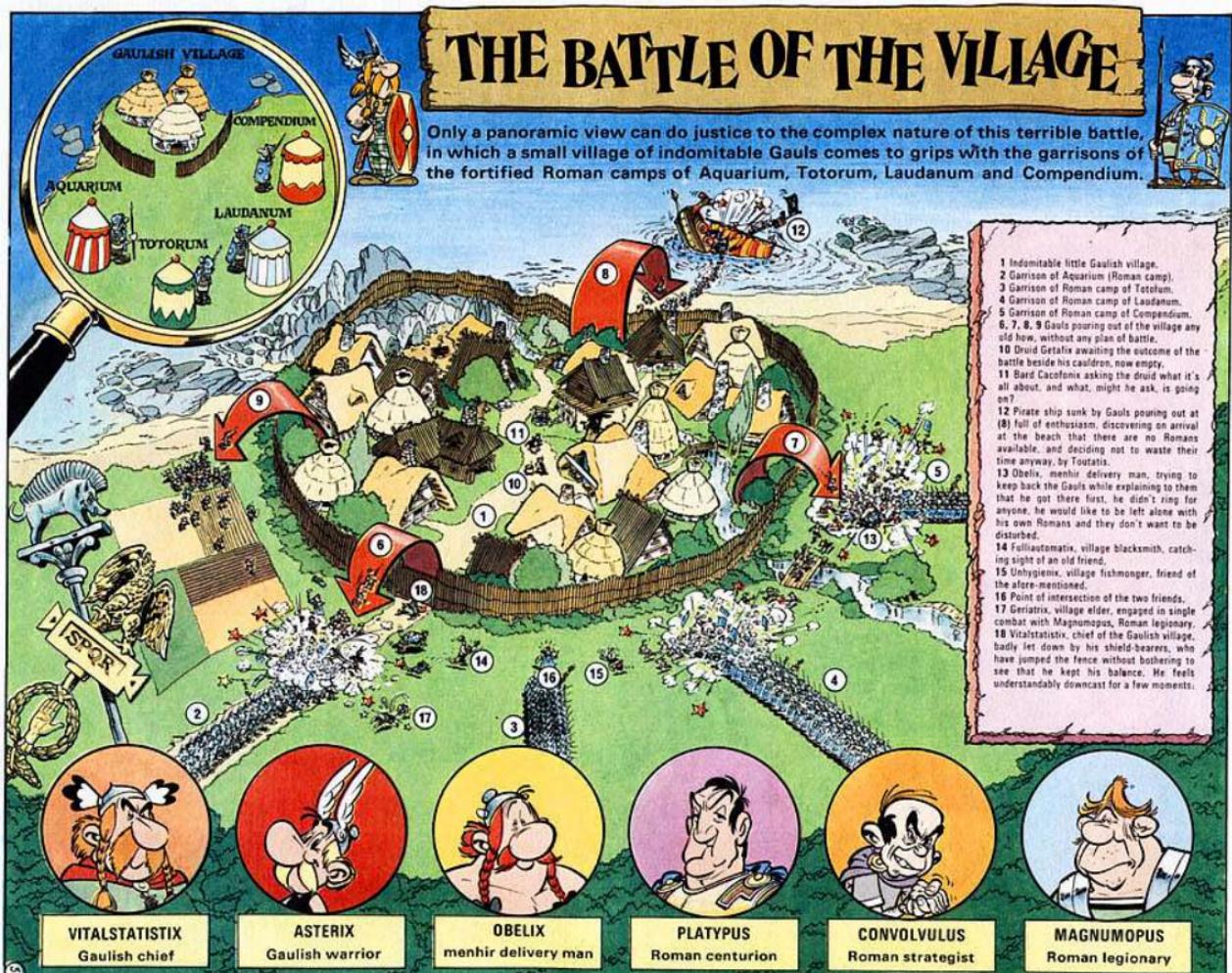






THE BATTLE OF THE VILLAGE

Only a panoramic view can do justice to the complex nature of this terrible battle, in which a small village of indomitable Gauls comes to grips with the garrisons of the fortified Roman camps of Aquarium, Totorum, Laudanum and Compendium.



- 1 Indomitable little Gaulish village.
- 2 Garrison of Aquarium (Roman camp).
- 3 Garrison of Roman camp of Totorum.
- 4 Garrison of Roman camp of Laudanum.
- 5 Garrison of Roman camp of Compendium.
- 6, 7, 8, 9 Gaulish warriors who have village any old how, without any plan of battle.
- 10 Druid Getafix awaiting the outcome of the battle beside his cauldron, now empty.
- 11 Bard Cacofonix asking the druid what it's all about, and what, might he ask, is going on?
- 12 Pirate ship sunk by Gauls pouring out at (8) full of enthusiasm; discovering on arrival at the beach that there are no Romans available to ransom it, they don't waste their time anyway, by Totanus.
- 13 Obelix, menhir delivery man, trying to keep back the Gauls while explaining to them that he got there first; he didn't ring for anyone, he would like to be left alone with his own Romans and they don't want to be disturbed.
- 14 Fullautomatix, village blacksmith, catching sight of an old friend.
- 15 Unhygienix, village fishmonger, friend of Vitalstatistix.
- 16 Point of intersection of the two friends.
- 17 Geriatrix, village elder, engaged in single combat with Magnomopus, Roman legionary.
- 18 Vitalstatistix, chief of the Gaulish village, badly let down by his shield-bearers, who have jumped the fence without bothering to see that he kept his balance. He feels understandably cast down for a few moments.

BATTLE, ALTHOUGH VIOLENT,
IS OF SHORT DURATION, AND THE
VICTORS ARE LEFT IN POSSESSION
OF THE BATTLEFIELD, THEIR ARMS
FULL OF TROPHIES...

TEEHEEHEE!

SLAP!
SLAP!

I CALL THAT BATTLE A
REAL SUCCESS; IT WAS
A GREAT CRUSH!

YES, BUT THERE'S
STILL SOMETHING WE
HAVE TO DO. CALL
THE OTHERS!

A LITTLE
FARTHER
AWAY...

OH, SO THERE YOU ARE. YOU AND
YOUR TROUBLEMAKING! BRAVO! OH,
VERY WELL DONE! WE WERE GOING ALONG
QUIETLY AS USUAL, THE GALLS WERE
MINDING THEIR OWN BUSINESS, AND NOW
WE'VE SUFFERED A DEFEAT, THANKS TO
YOU!

AS FOR ME, I DID WHAT I HAD
TO DO... IT WAS YOU OTHERS
WHO...

HEY!

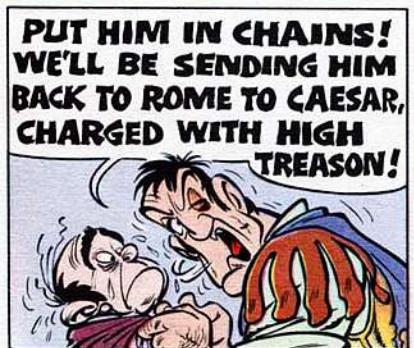
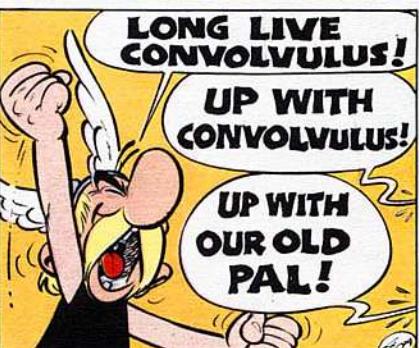
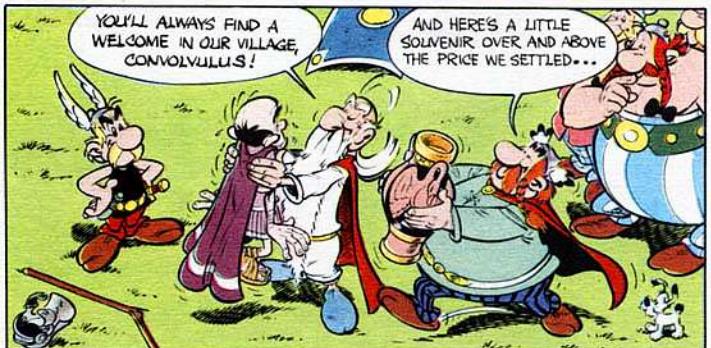
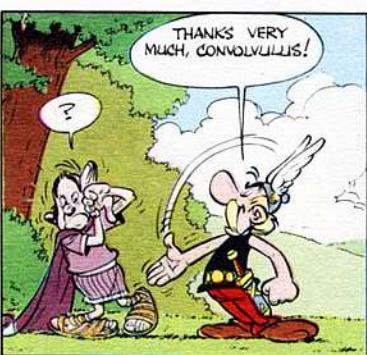
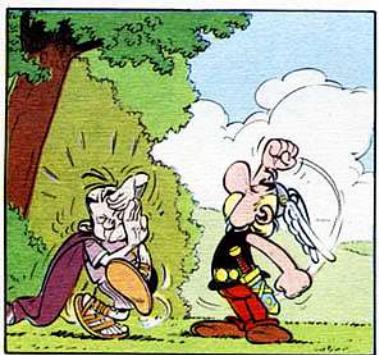
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!!!

ALL RIGHT, I'M
GOING... I'M NOT
NEEDED HERE ANY
MORE...

**LEGIONARIES!
ARREST THAT PERSON!**

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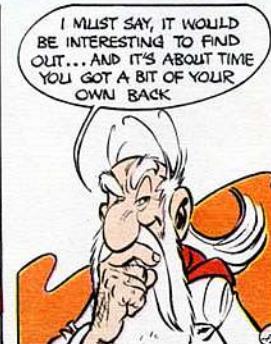
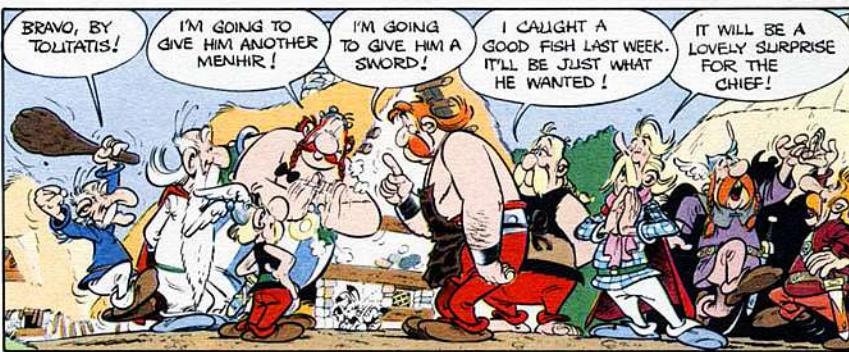
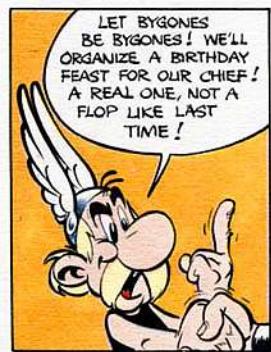
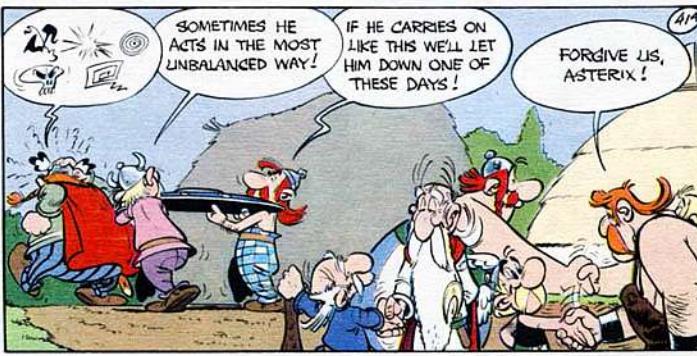
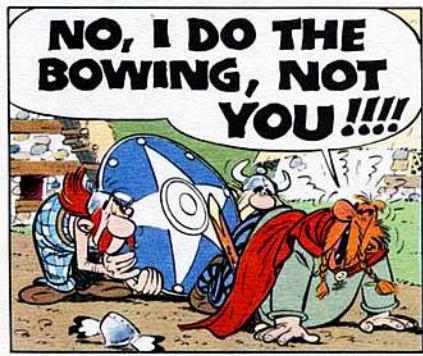
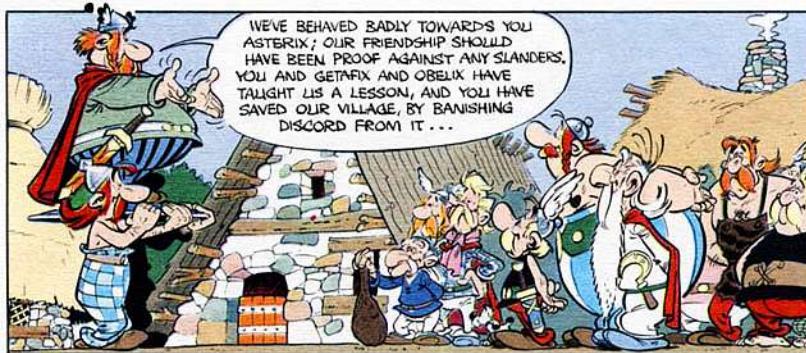


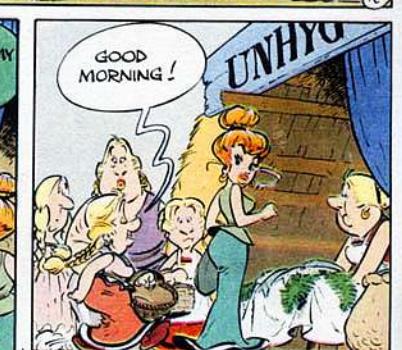
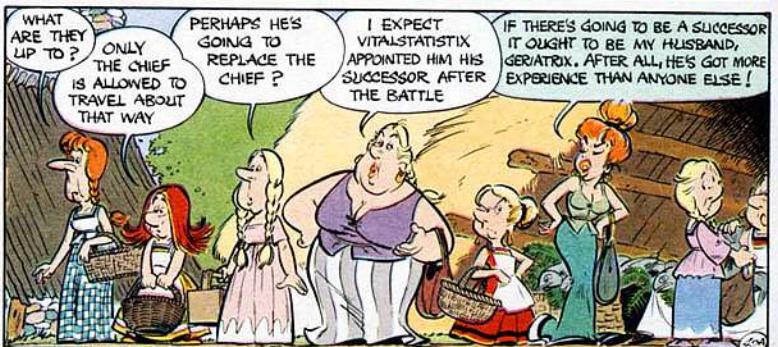
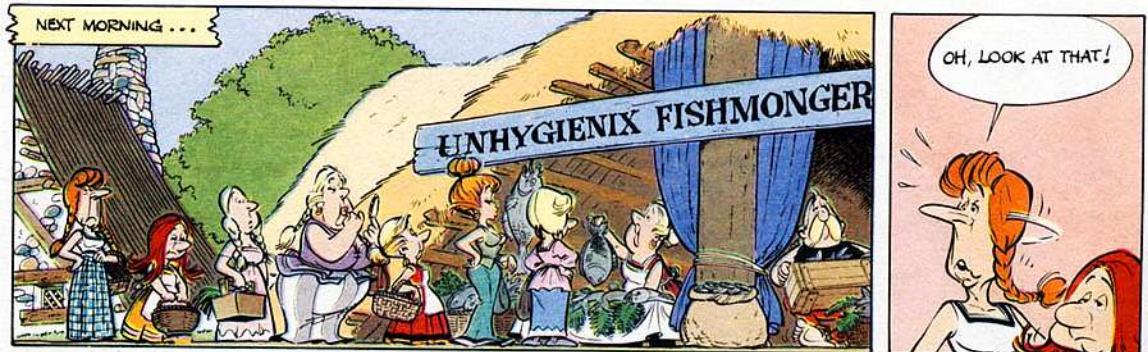
BUT WE NEED NOT BE UNDULY WORRIED ABOUT THE TROUBLE-MAKER; CONVOLVULUS WILL WRIGGLE HIS WAY OUT OF ANYTHING, AND EVEN ON BOARD THE GALLEY WHICH IS TAKING HIM BACK TO ROME, HE DOES NOT FEEL ALONE... SLANDER, JEALOUSY AND CALUMNY HAVE EMBARKED WITH HIM!

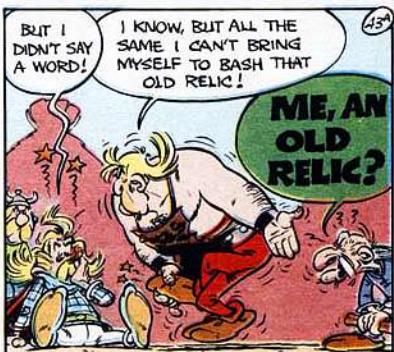
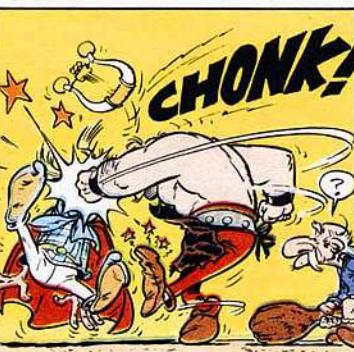
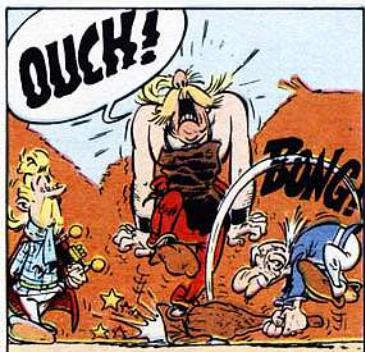
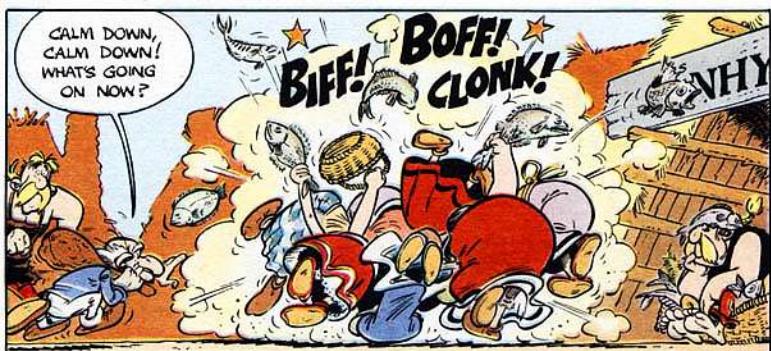


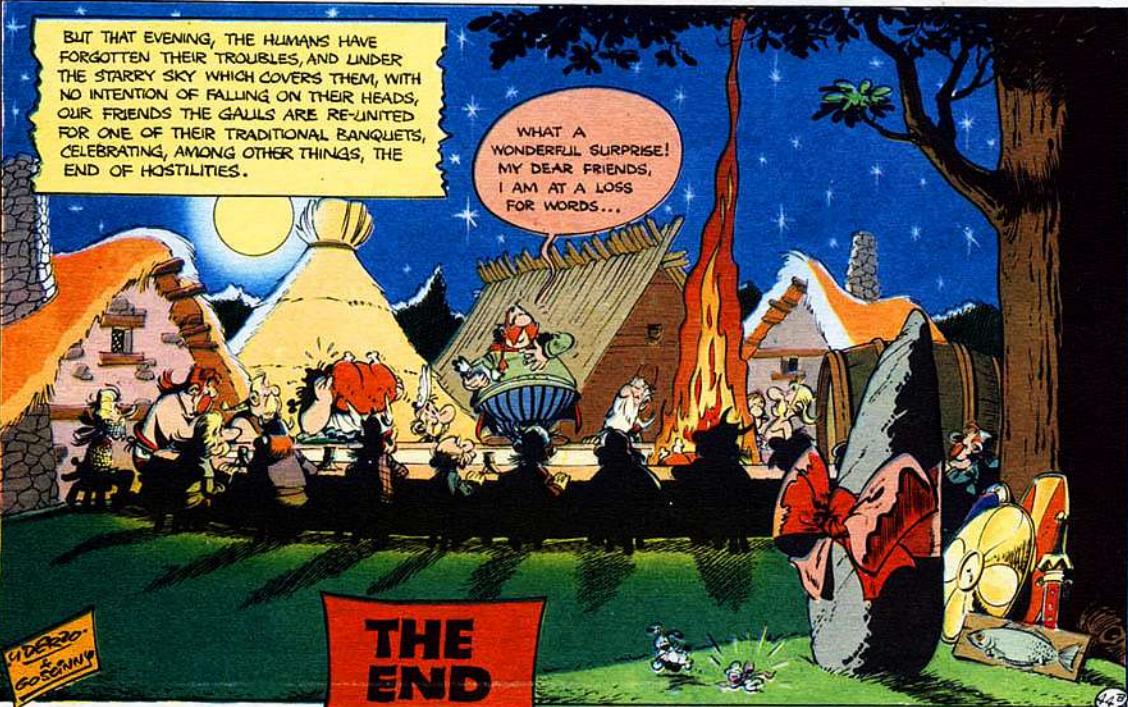
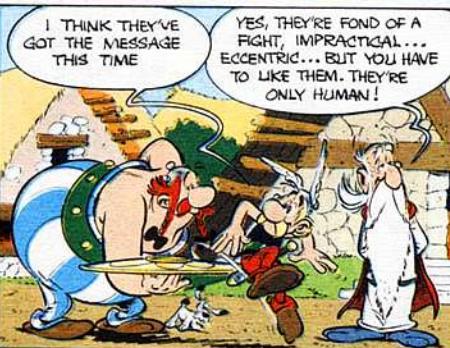
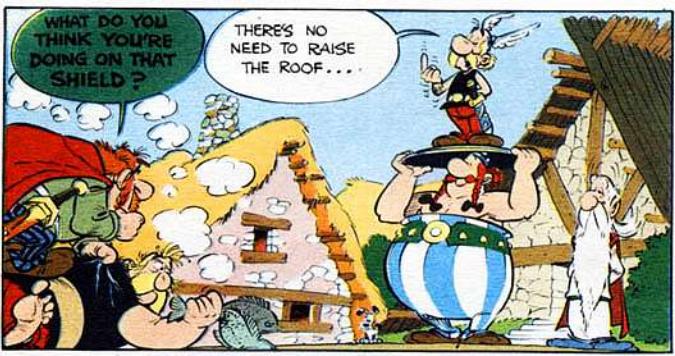
I SAID TO PORT!

STOP SHOVING YOUR OAR IN, CAPTAIN - WE ALL KNOW THE SORT OF PULL YOU USED TO GET YOUR JOB!









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