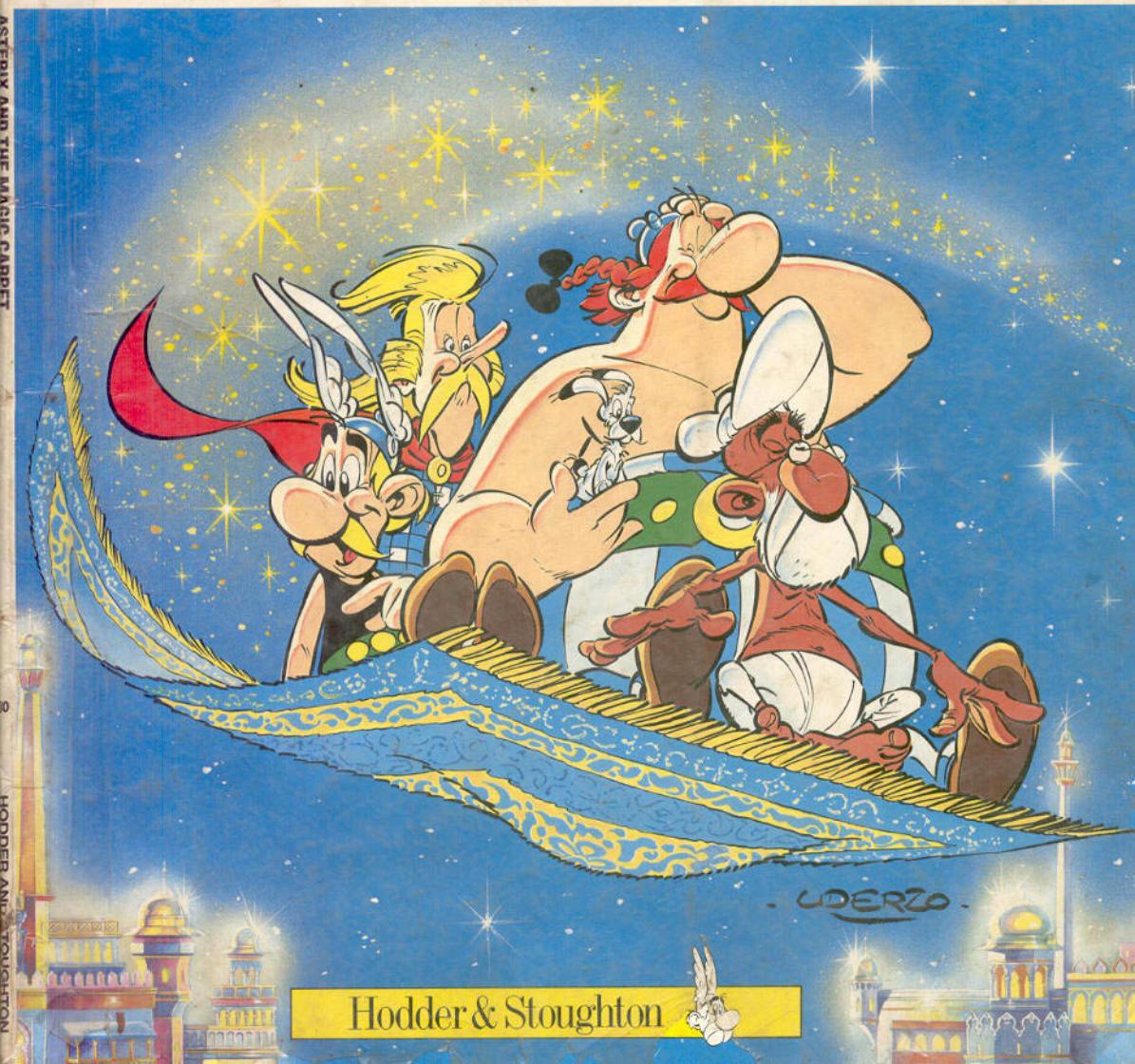


R. GOSCINNY - A. UDERZO

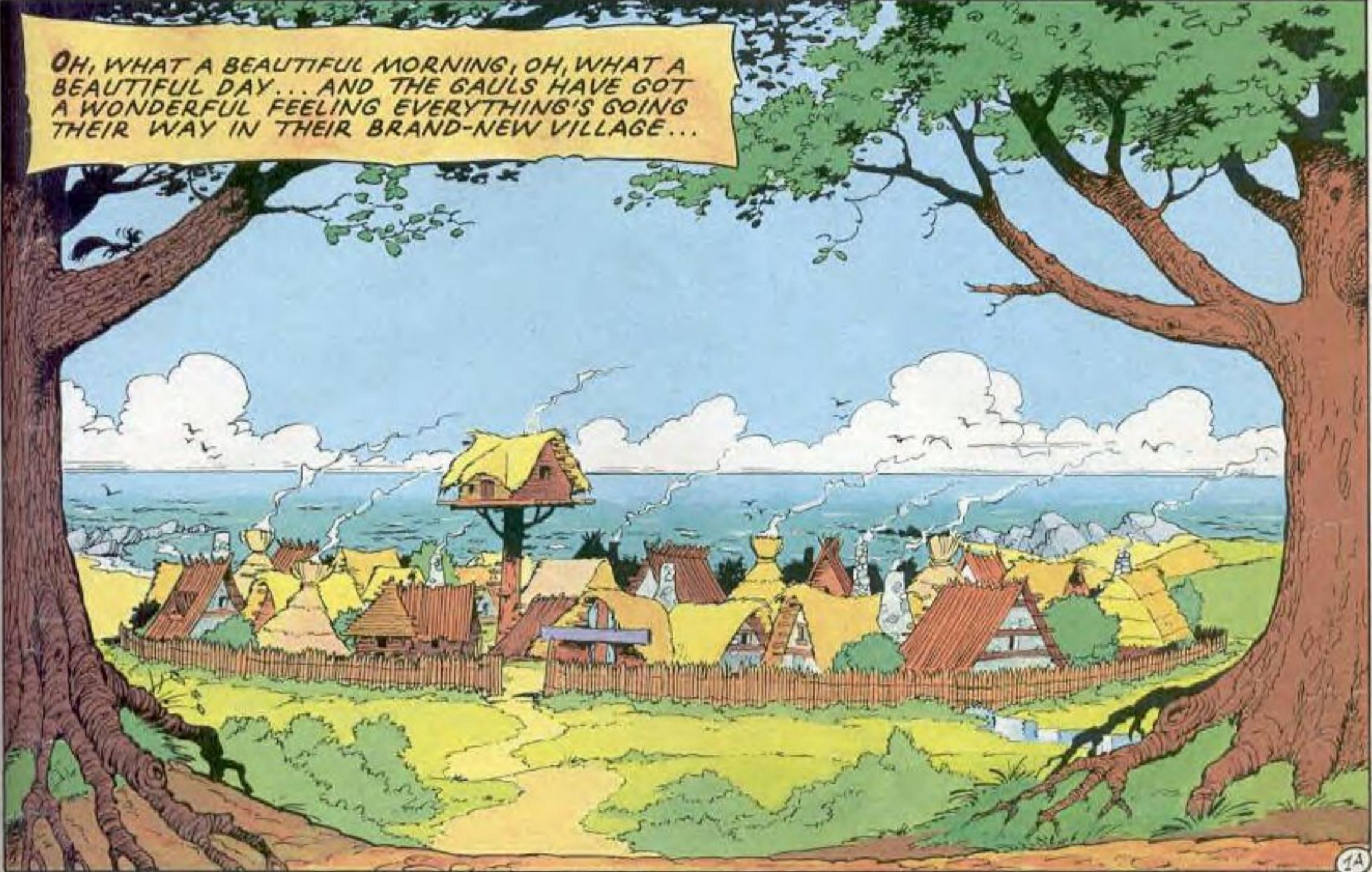
Asterix and the Magic Carpet

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY UDERZO



Hodder & Stoughton

OH, WHAT A BEAUTIFUL MORNING, OH, WHAT A BEAUTIFUL DAY... AND THE GAULS HAVE GOT A WONDERFUL FEELING EVERYTHING'S GOING THEIR WAY IN THEIR BRAND-NEW VILLAGE...



1A

FOR AS YOU
MAY
REMEMBER...

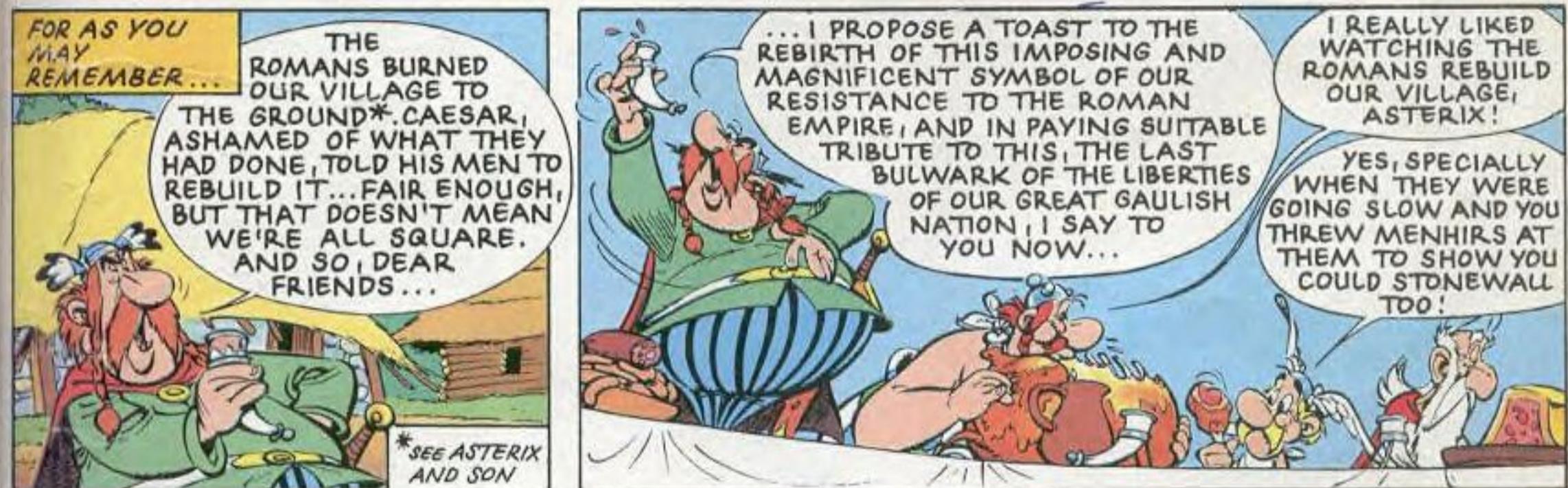
THE ROMANS BURNED
OUR VILLAGE TO
THE GROUND*. CAESAR,
ASHAMED OF WHAT THEY
HAD DONE, TOLD HIS MEN TO
REBUILD IT... FAIR ENOUGH,
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN
WE'RE ALL SQUARE.
AND SO, DEAR
FRIENDS...

* SEE ASTERIX
AND SON

... I PROPOSE A TOAST TO THE
REBIRTH OF THIS IMPOSING AND
MAGNIFICENT SYMBOL OF OUR
RESISTANCE TO THE ROMAN
EMPIRE, AND IN PAYING SUITABLE
TRIBUTE TO THIS, THE LAST
BULWARK OF THE LIBERTIES
OF OUR GREAT GAULISH
NATION, I SAY TO
YOU NOW...

I REALLY LIKED
WATCHING THE
ROMANS REBUILD
OUR VILLAGE,
ASTERIX!

YES, SPECIALLY
WHEN THEY WERE
GOING SLOW AND YOU
THREW MENHIRS AT
THEM TO SHOW YOU
COULD STONEWALL
TOO!



1B

... I SAY TO
YOU NOW...

WELL, THEY
DID GET THE JOB
DONE AHEAD OF
SCHEDULE!

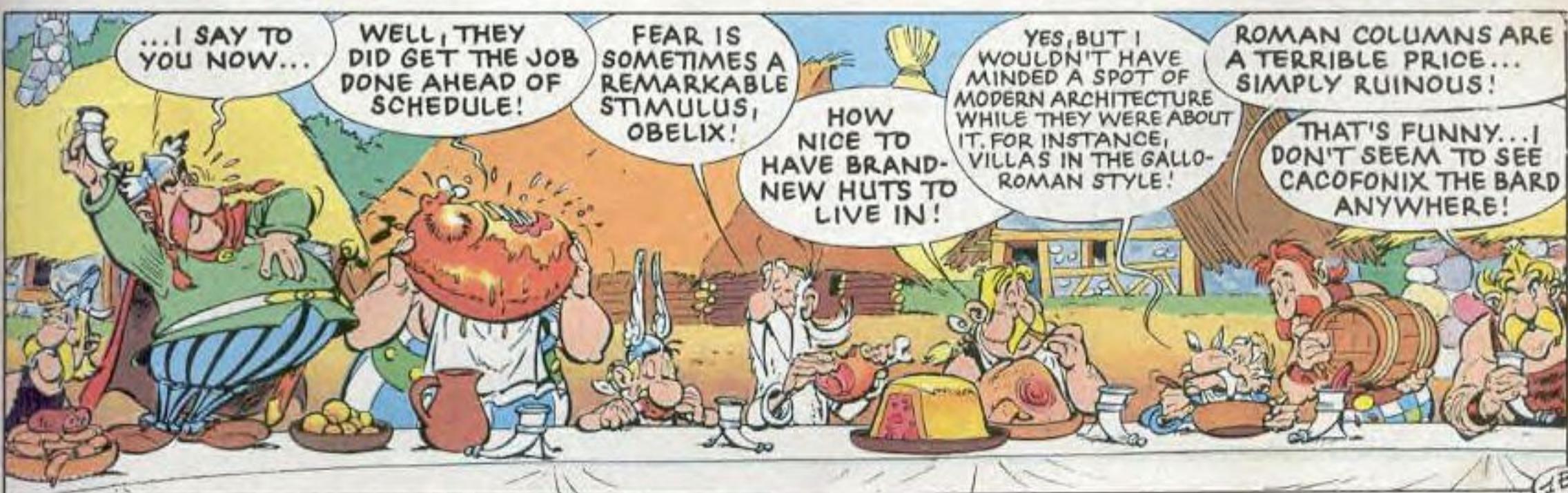
FEAR IS
SOMETIMES A
REMARKABLE
STIMULUS,
OBELIX!

HOW
NICE TO
HAVE BRAND-
NEW HUTS TO
LIVE IN!

YES, BUT I
WOULDN'T HAVE
MINDED A SPOT OF
MODERN ARCHITECTURE
WHILE THEY WERE ABOUT
IT, FOR INSTANCE,
VILLAS IN THE GALLO-
ROMAN STYLE!

ROMAN COLUMNS ARE
A TERRIBLE PRICE...
SIMPLY RUINOUS!

THAT'S FUNNY... I
DON'T SEEM TO SEE
CACOFONIX THE BARD
ANYWHERE!



5

SILENCE WHILE
I PROPOSE A
HEALTH! AND HE
THAT WOULD THIS
HEALTH DENY...

J DOWN AMONG
THE LEGIONARIES
LET HIM LIE...

WITH
J AHEY DOWN
DERRY DOWN
J DOWN! J

AND DOWN'S
THE WORD! YOU
JUST PIPE DOWN...
OR YOU COME
DOWN!

OH, SO
I CAN'T EVEN
TRY THE ACOUSTICS
OF MY NEW HUT?

THIS
WOULD TRY
THE PATIENCE
OF TOUTATIS
HIMSELF!
RIGHT! I SAID,
YOU COME
DOWN!

CHOP!
CHOP!

WHO ARE
YOU? WHERE
DO YOU COME
FROM?

I'M WATZIZNEHM,
THE FAKIR. I WAS
FLYING OVER WHEN
I HEARD INHUMAN
NOISES, BECAME
UNBALANCED AND
HAD TO CRASH
YOUR PARTY.

YOU WERE
FLYING
OVER OUR
VILLAGE?

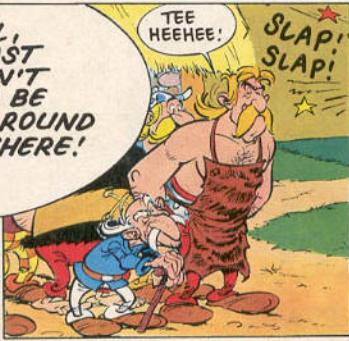
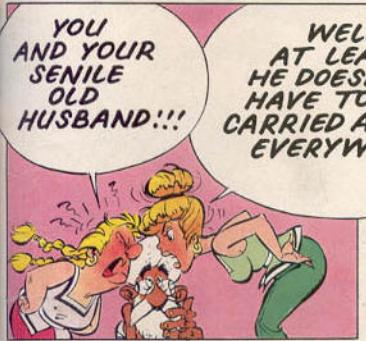
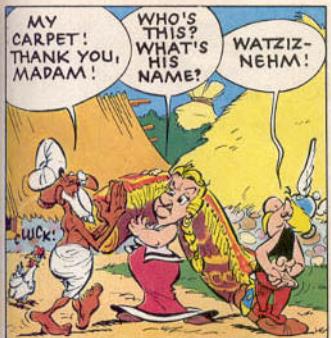
THESE
FAKIRS ARE
CRAZY!

WELL, YES!
HE FELL ON
HIS HEAD!

AND NOT FOR THE
FIRST TIME, JUDGING
BY THAT BANDAGE
ON IT!

OH, PIGGYWIGGY!
LOOK WHAT I'VE
JUST FOUND OUT
SIDE OUR POOR





WHY WERE
YOU LOOKING FOR
OUR VILLAGE IN
PARTICULAR?

I COME FROM A
DISTANT EASTERN
COUNTRY, WHERE AN
EX-LEGIONARY WHO IS
NOW A MERCHANT TOLD
ME ABOUT YOUR FAMOUS
DEEDS. SO I'VE COME ALL
THIS WAY TO ASK YOU
FOR HELP. IT'S VERY
IMPORTANT!

BUT BEFORE I
TELL YOU ANY
MORE, I'LL JUST
RETRIEVE MY
CARPET, IF
I MAY.

PAF!

SAP!

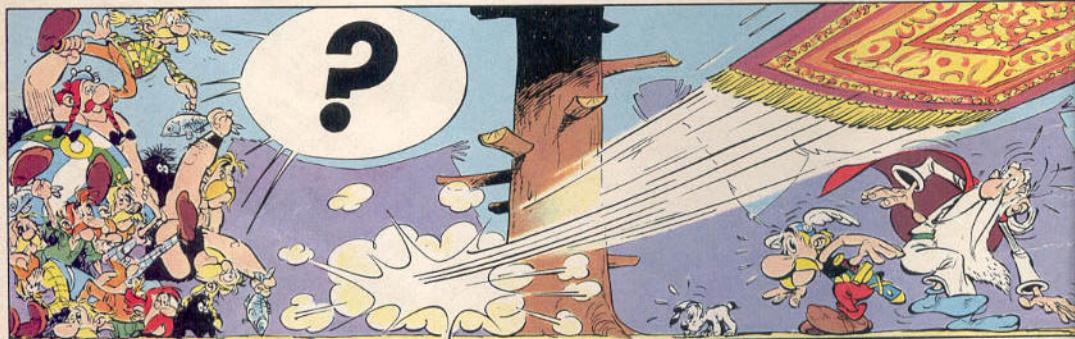
THIS
CARPET'S
MINE, AND
I'M NOT
BUDGING!

IF
YOU SAY
SO!

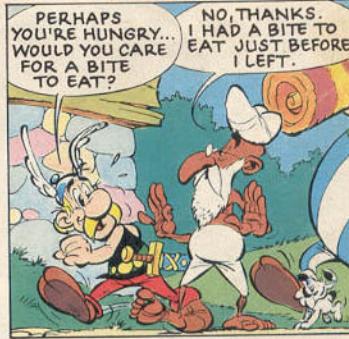
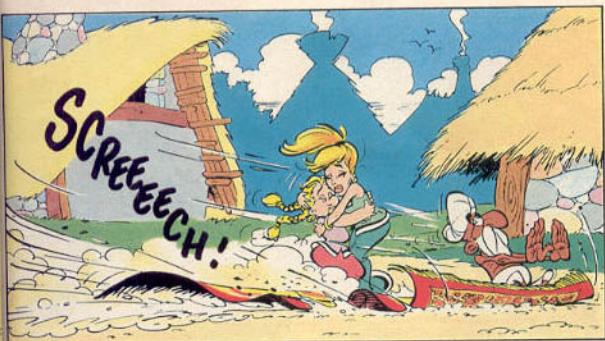
LADIES,
THAT CARPET
IS MINE,
AND I CAN
PROVE IT.

Pif!

PAF!



I'VE HEARD TELL
OF THE STRANGE
POWERS OF THESE
BEFORE. THEY CAN
CONCENTRATE HAIR
ENOUGH TO LEVIT
WHATEVER THEY
LIKE.



I COME FROM A KINGDOM WHICH LIES IN THE VALLEY OF THE GANGES. OUR CLIMATE IS HOT AND DRY, EXCEPT FOR A FEW MONTHS EVERY YEAR WHEN THE RAINS FALL, WATERING OUR CROPS. THAT IS THE MONSOON SEASON.

I HOPE HE HASN'T COME ALL THIS WAY JUST TO TALK ABOUT THE WEATHER!

BUT WE MUST HAVE OFFENDED THE GOD IN德拉*, BECAUSE THE MONSOON SEASON WILL SOON BE OVER, AND WE HAVEN'T HAD A DROP OF RAIN YET. THE DRY SEASON WILL BE BACK, BRINGING WITH IT FAMINE AND HARDSHIP FOR OUR PEOPLE.

*GOD OF THE WATERS

OUR GOOD KING, RAJAH WATZIT, HAS A DAUGHTER, THE SWEET AND LOVELY PRINCESS ORINJADE...



AND THE GURU* WHO SPEAKS WITH THE GODS, HOODUNNIT, DECREED THAT IF NO RAIN FELL BEFORE THE END OF THE MONSOON, IN A THOUSAND AND ONE HOURS' TIME, PRINCESS ORINJADE MUST BE SACRIFICED TO APPEASE THE WRATH OF THE GODS!

*LEADER OF A RELIGIOUS SECT

BUT IF EVEN YOUR RAJAH DOESN'T HOLD THE RAINS OF POWER, I DON'T QUITE SEE HOW WE CAN HELP YOU!



I THINK I DO, THOUGH. I FANCY OUR VISITOR WANTS TO BORROW THE BARD. HIS SINGING WILL BRING RAIN EVEN IN AN INDIAN SUMMER.

OH, YES... I WAS FORGETTING CACOFONIX HAS A NEW STRING TO HIS LYRE THESE DAYS!



ALL RIGHT, FAKIR! WE'LL LEND YOU OUR BARD, AND ASTERIX AND OBELIX WILL GO WITH YOU TOO.



HOW DARE YOU SAY I MAKE IT RAIN? IT'S NOT TRUE! LISTEN TO THIS!



HEY! IT'S RAINING DOWN THE INSIDE OF THE WALL!



**EVERYBODY OUT! I SAID,
EVERYBODY OUT!**

CACOFONIX,
YOU'VE GOT
WATER ON THE
BRAIN...

IT'S NOT EVERY GAULISH
HUT THAT HAS RUNNING
WATER LAID ON!

BANG!
PAF!
BING!

AND LATER...

I PROMISE
TO BRING YOUR
BARD BACK VERY
SOON!

OH,
THERE'S NO
HURRY.

YOUR
SINGING WILL
TAKE THEM
BY STORM!
CACOFONIX!

YOU
THINK
SO?

IT'LL BE
A SMASH
HIT, AS
USUAL!

HERE, ASTERIX,
TAKE THIS GOURD
OF MAGIC POTION.
IT MAY COME IN
USEFUL.

THANKS,
GETAFIX. ANY
IDEA WHERE
OBELIX IS?

**MAKE WAY
THERE!**

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING WITH
THOSE?

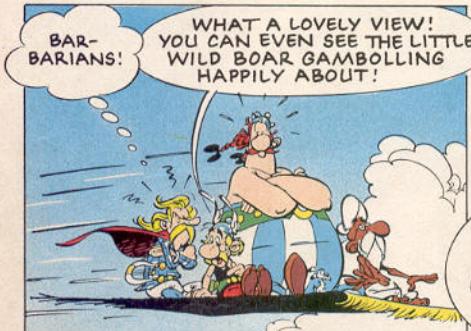
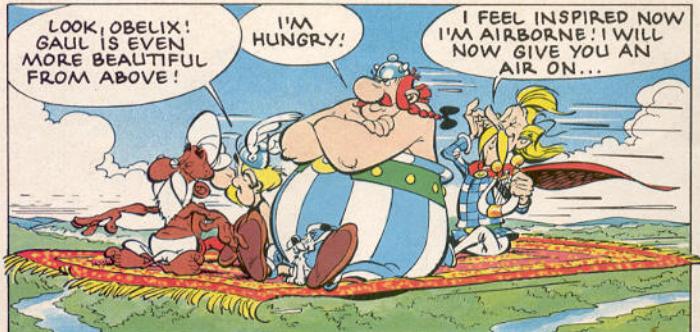
JUST LAYING IN
A FEW IN-FLIGHT
PROVISIONS...

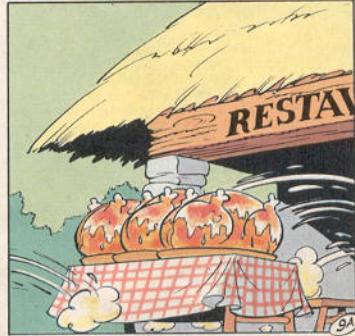
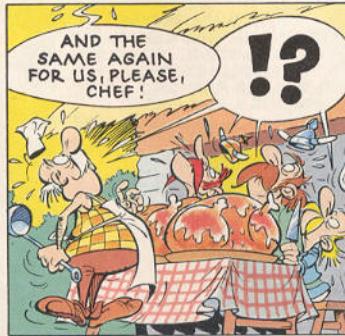
WOOF!
WOOF!

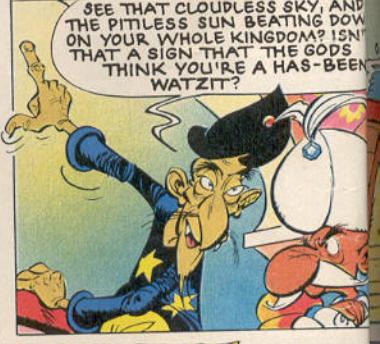
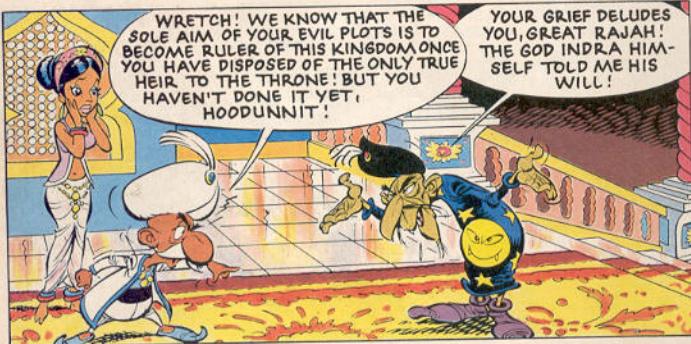
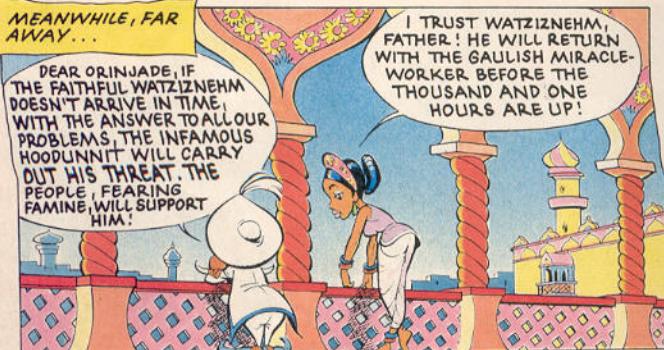
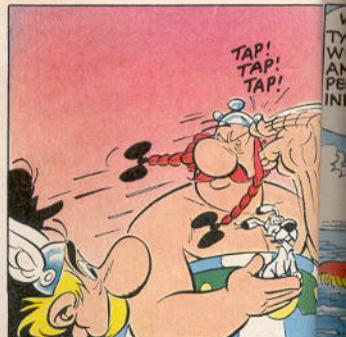
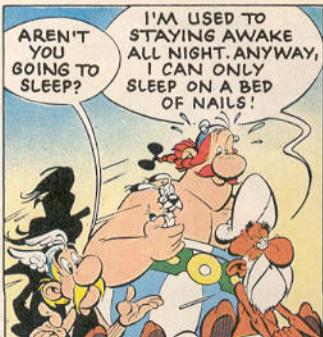
MY CARPET WILL
NEVER CARRY ALL
THAT! BUT WE CAN
STOP OFF TO EAT
WHENEVER YOU
WANT, OBELIX.

LATER...

I ALREADY
FEEL THERE'S
SOMETHING
MISSING!







WE ARE NOW ABOVE THE TYRRHENIAN SEA. SOON WE'LL BE FLYING OVER ITALY, AND THEN GREECE, MESOPOTAMIA, PERSIA, THE VALLEY OF THE INDUS, AND FINALLY WE SHALL REACH THE GANGES.

HOW DO YOU MANAGE TO FIND YOUR WAY SO EASILY?



SIMPLE! I JUST DO AS THE CARRIER PIGEONS DO!



A LITTLE BOW-WOW WANTS HIS DIN-DINS, DIDDUMS THEN, DOGMATIX?



*PART OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

YOU IN THE CROW'S NEST! SEE ANY SAILS AT SEA?

NOT A BLESSED SAIL, CAP'N...

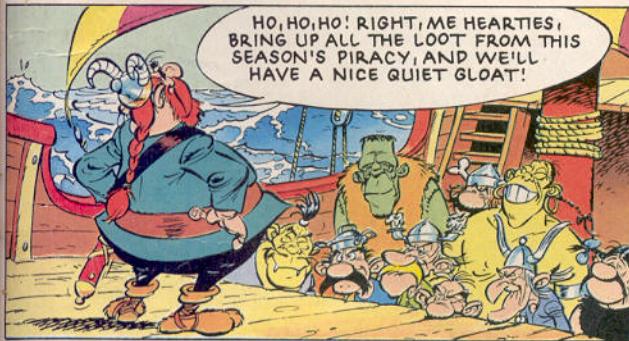
...IT'S A VACANT SEE!

GOOD! SPLENDID!



HO, HO, HO! RIGHT, ME HEARTIES, BRING UP ALL THE LOOT FROM THIS SEASON'S PIRACY, AND WE'LL HAVE A NICE QUIET GLOAT!

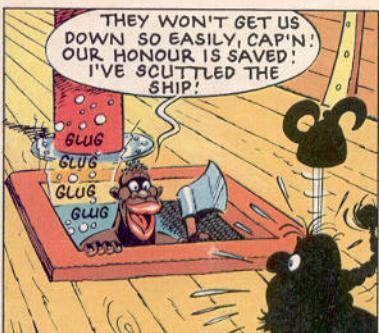
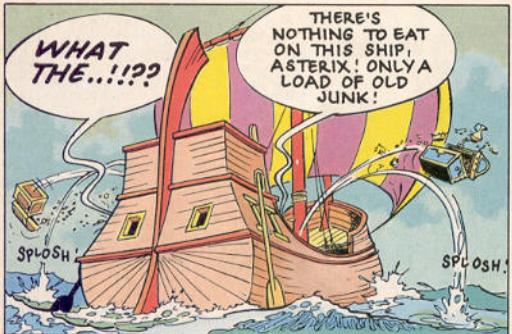
I...I... I SEE A SKY PILOT!

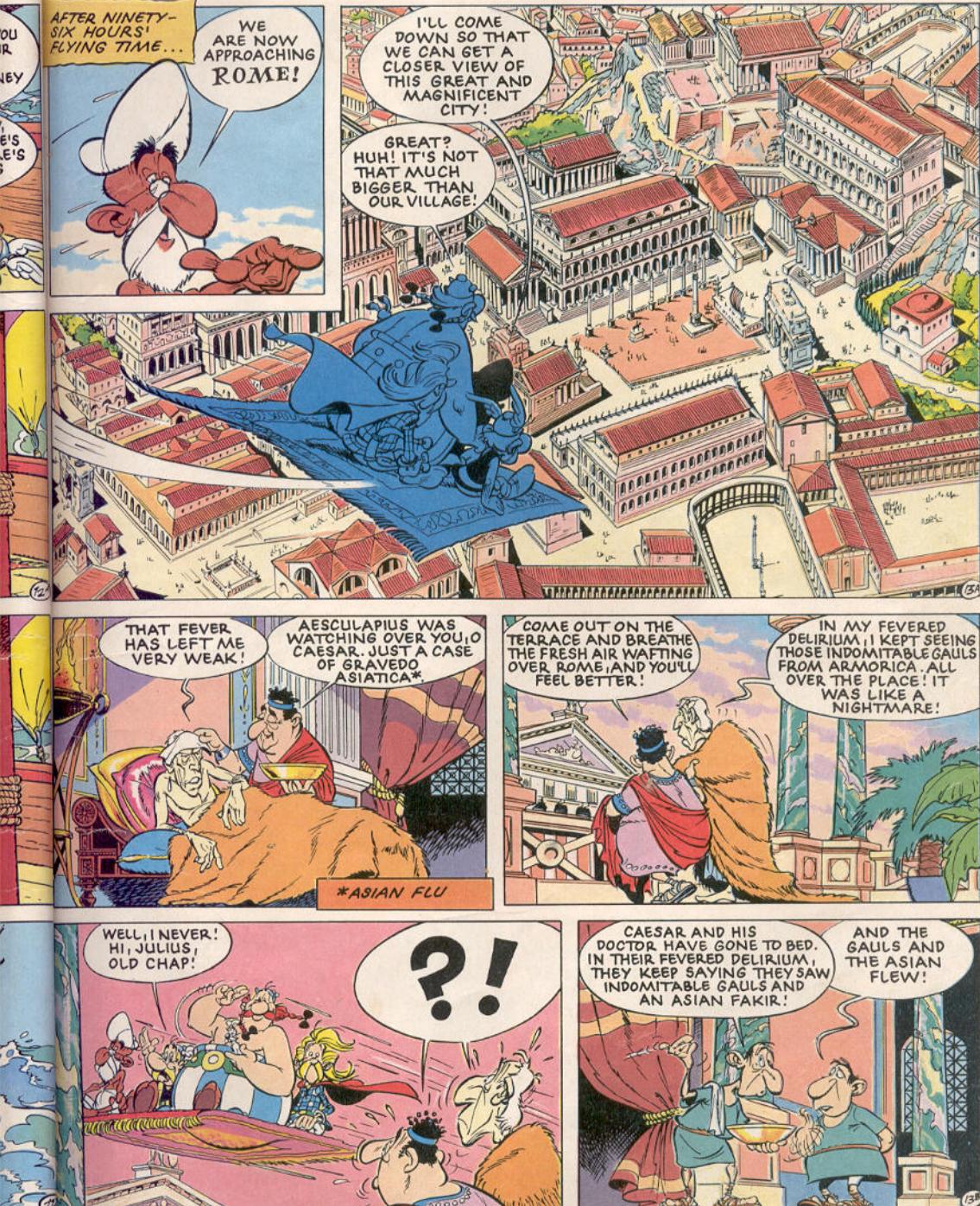


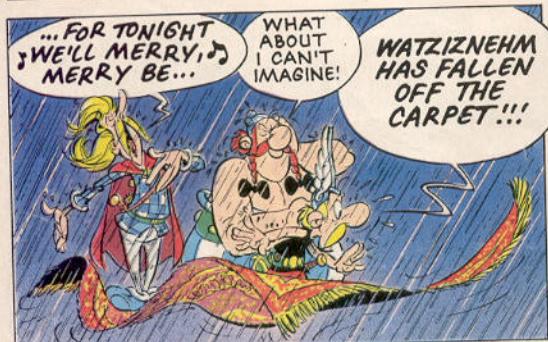
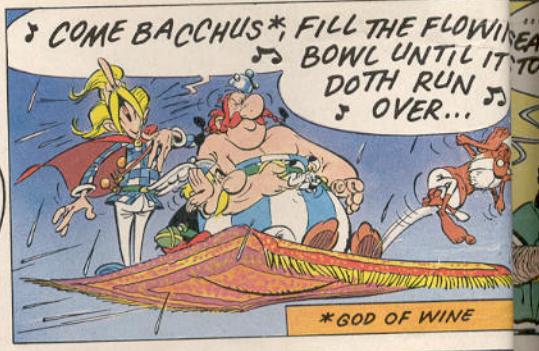
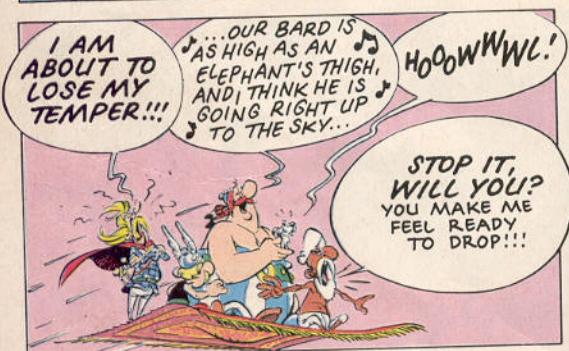
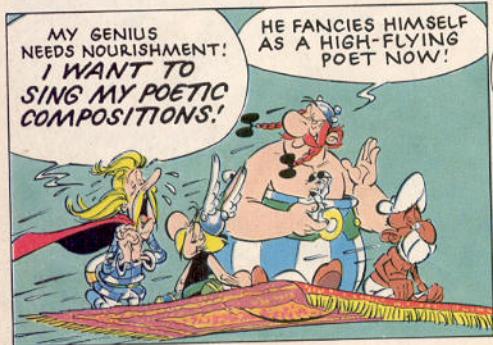
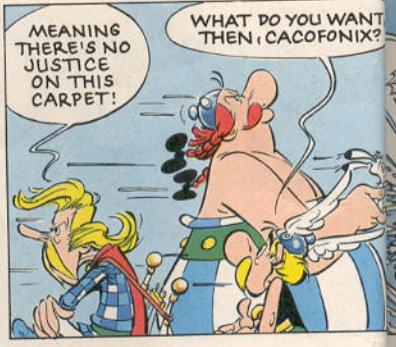
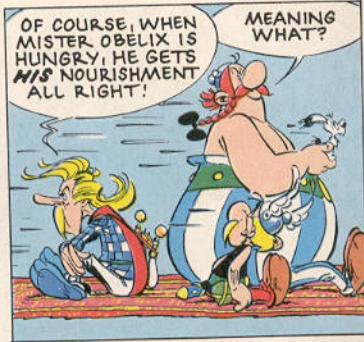
FLYING A CARPET! STRAIGHT AHEAD!

WHY, IF IT ISN'T OUR DEAR OLD FRIENDS!









SPLOSH!

A SHIP!
I THINK
THEY'VE
SEEN US!

WELCOME ABOARD.
I'M ON THE PREMISES,
A GREEK MERCHANT!

I'M ASTERIX THE
GAUL. YOU HAVEN'T
SEEN ANY FAKIRS
FALLING, HAVE
YOU?

NO, IT'S BEEN RAINING CATS
AND DOGS, WHICH THE ORACLE
METOFFIS AS USUAL FAILED TO
FORECAST, BUT NO FAKIRS.

... WHILE THE RAGING
SEAS DID ROAR, AND THE
STORMY WINDS DID BLOW...
HIC! HIC!

... AND WE JOLLY
FAKIR-BOYS WERE
ALL UP... HIC! ALOFT...

THAT'S
WATZINNEHM'S
VOICE!

WHAT'S
HIS NAME...
WATZINNEHM?

... AND THE
LANDLUBBERS
LYING DOWN
BELLOW... HIC!
HIC!

WHAT HAVE YOU
GOT IN THOSE
JARS?

CAN'T YOU
TELL? WINE.
IF THERE'S
ANY LEFT.

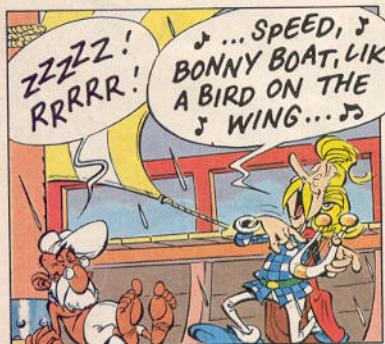
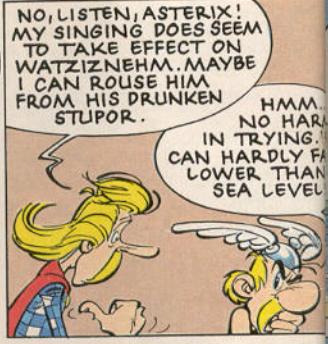
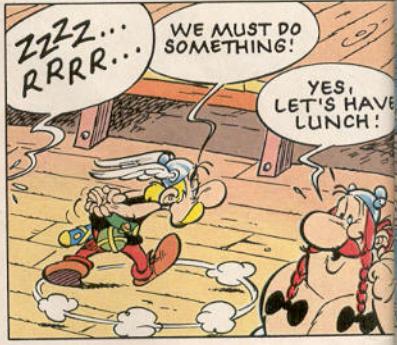
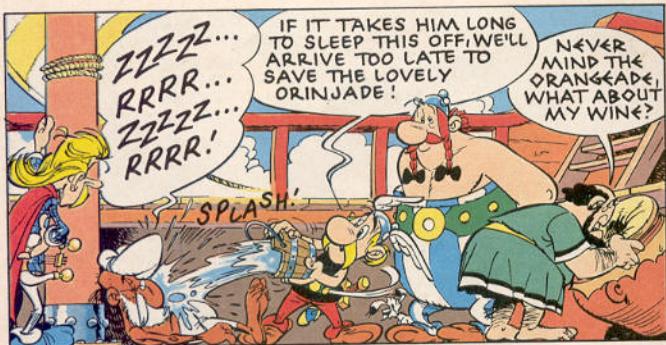
IS THIS
BY ANY
CHANCE YOUR
FAKIR?

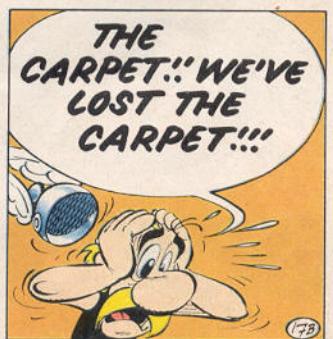
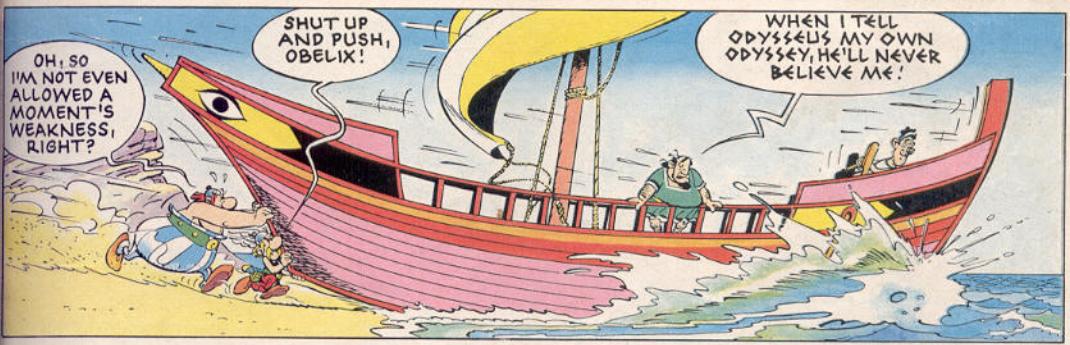
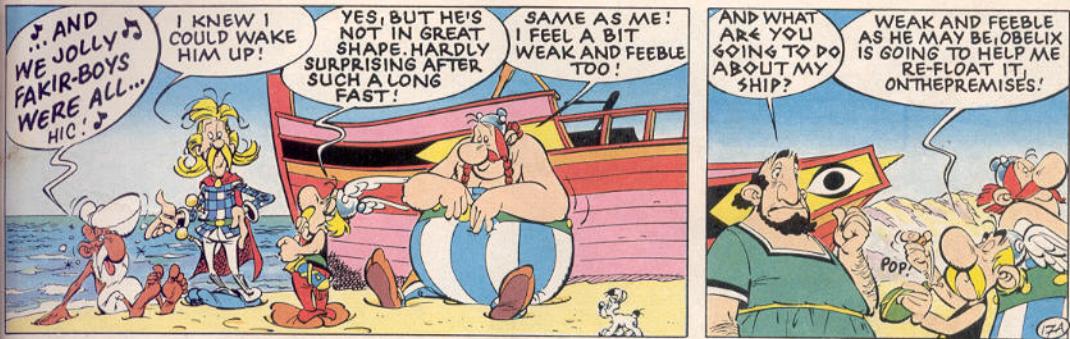
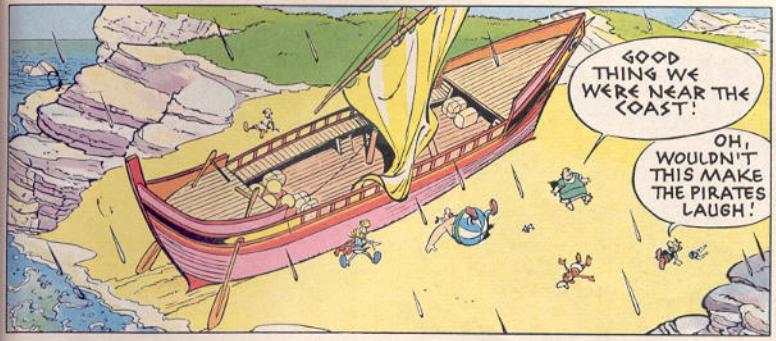
... BELOW,
BELLOW...

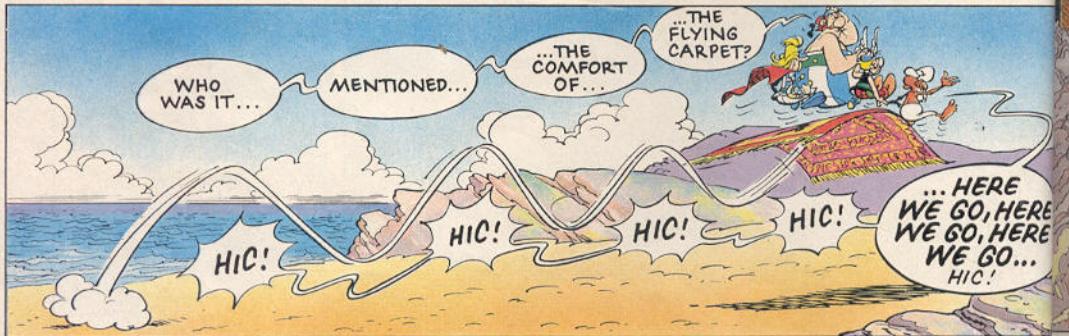
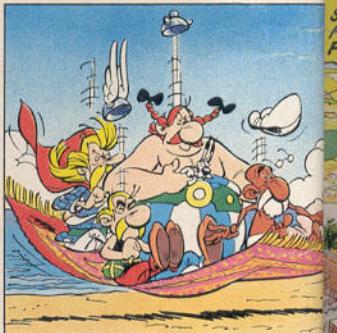
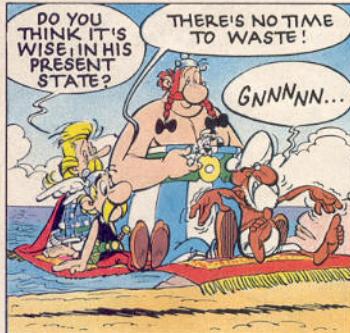
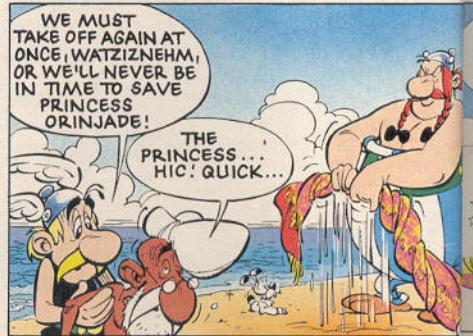
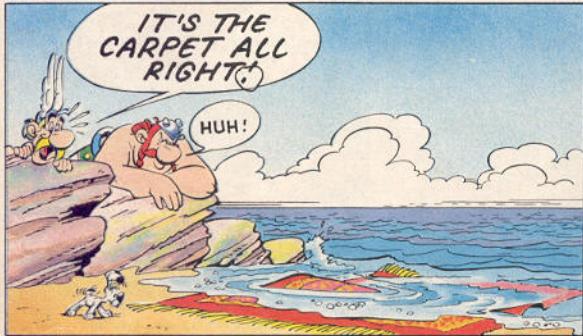
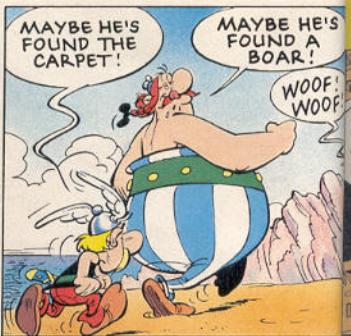
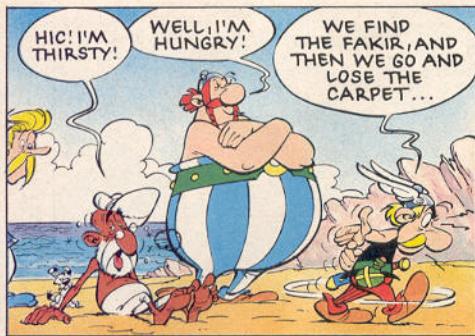
BY TOUTATIS,
HE'S GOT A FEW
JARS INSIDE
HIM!

SO MUCH FOR
THE ASCETIC LIFE!
AS A FAKIR HE'S
A FAKE!

AND
HE CALLS
HIMSELF
A POET!







MEANWHILE, VERY FAR AWAY...

LEMUHNADE,
MY FAITHFUL
LEMUHNADE,
DO YOU SEE
ANYONE COMING?

THE ANSWER
IS A LEMON.*

*FRUITLESS

WELL, OWZAT, MY WICKED HENCHMAN, THE HEIR OF THIS KINGDOM WILL SOON BREATHE HER LAST OF THE AIR OF THIS KINGDOM! RATHER DRY, EH? HERE'S TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR PLANS!

YOU ALWAYS DID HAVE A DRY WIT, O DIVINE MASTER. CHEERS! AND MAY THE FORCES OF EVIL MAKE THAT TALKATIVE FOOL WATZINNEHM DRY UP FOR EVER!

I'M A FOOL,
AND I'VE GOT
A TERRIBLE
THIRST!

WELL, I'M NO FOOL,
BUT I'VE GOT A
TERRIBLE HUNGER!

WHY BLAME
YOURSELF?
IT'S NOT
YOUR FAULT!

I HAVE
COMMITTED THE
SIN OF GLUTTONY!
NET RESULT: A
SPLITTING HEAD-
ACHE AND A FRIGHT-
FUL WASTE OF
TIME!

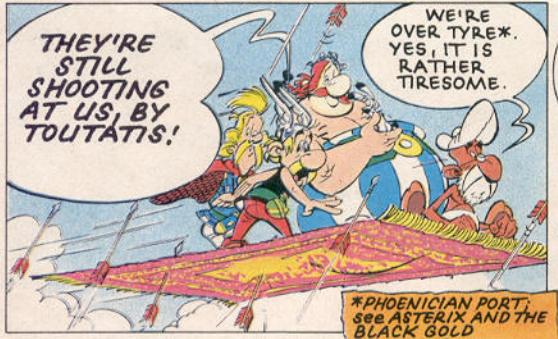
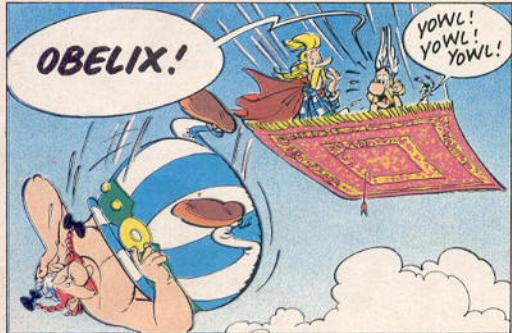
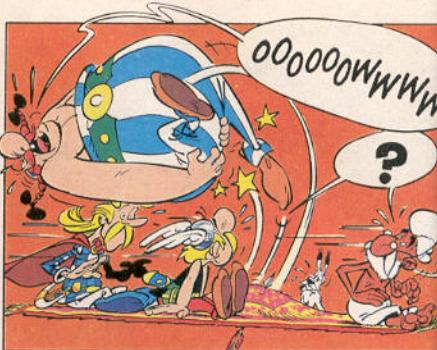
WELL, WE'LL SOON BE
FLYING OVER ATHENS, AND
THEN WE LEAVE GREECE
BEHIND!

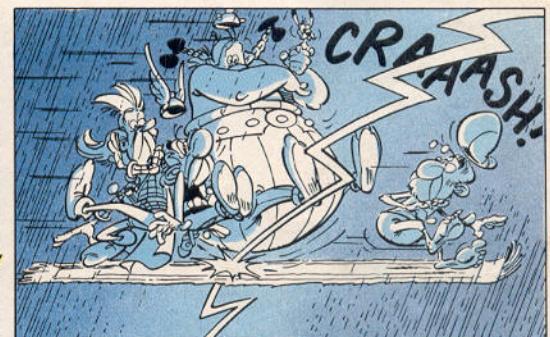
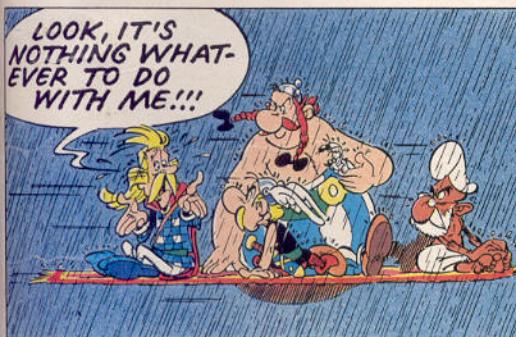
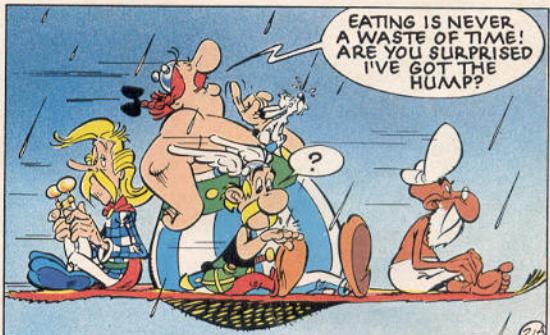
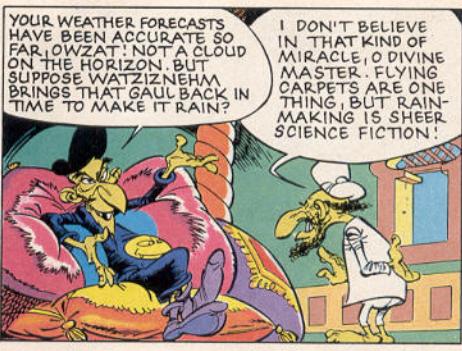
SURE ENOUGH, AFTER A
HUNDRED AND FIFTY HOURS'
FLYING TIME...

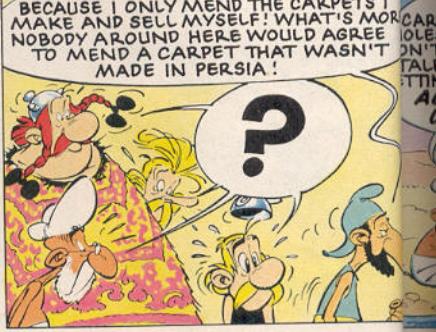
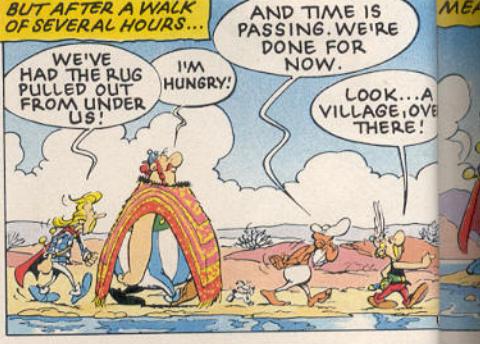
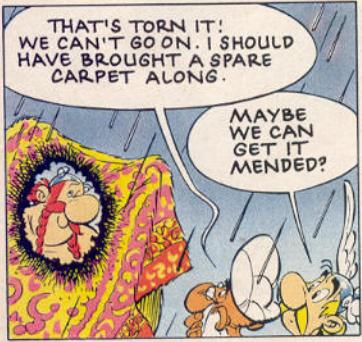
REMEMBER
OUR TRIP TO THE
OLYMPIC GAMES,
OBELIX?

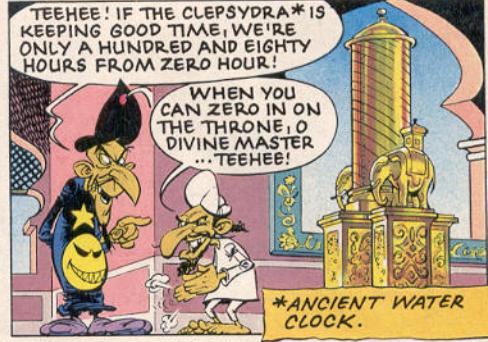
YES, SPECIALLY
THERMOS'S LITTLE
RESTAURANT AND HIS
STUFFED VINE LEAVES,
KEBABs, OLIVES, WATER
MELON AND RESINATED
WINE!* (SIGH)

*see ASTERIX AT THE
OLYMPIC GAMES.

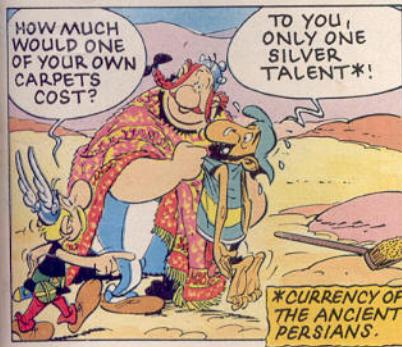
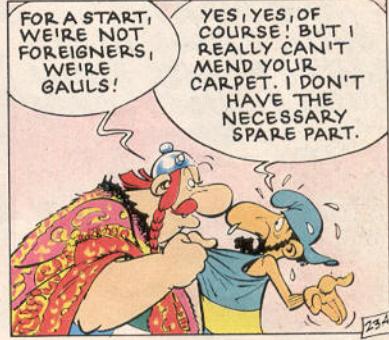


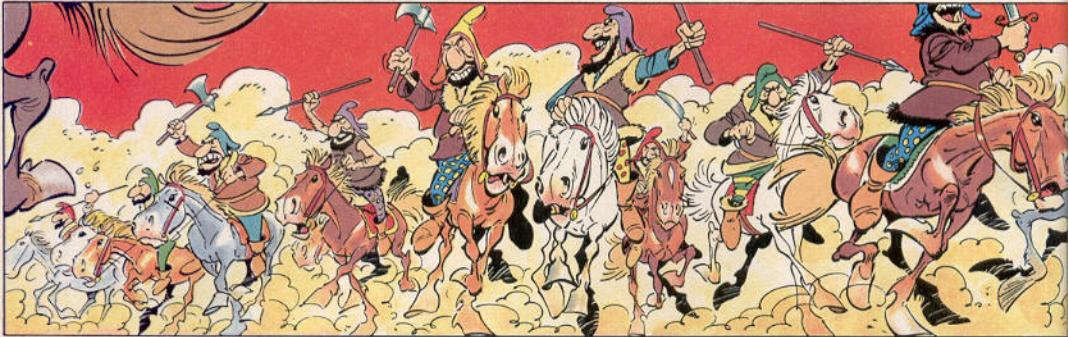






MEANWHILE ...

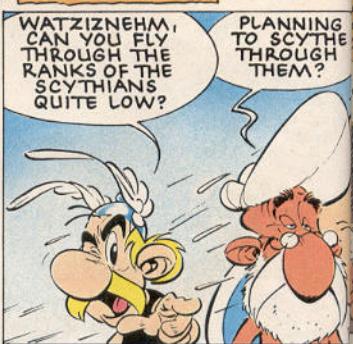
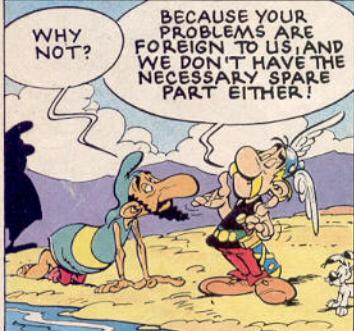




**THE PIRATES
WILL STEAL OUR
CARPETS AND BURN
OUR HOUSES DOWN
AGAIN!!!**

I BEG YOU! IF
YOU HAVE ANY POWERS,
HELP US TO MEND
MATTERS, OR IT WILL
BE THE END OF OUR
VILLAGE!!!

SORRY,
CAN'T BE
DONE!



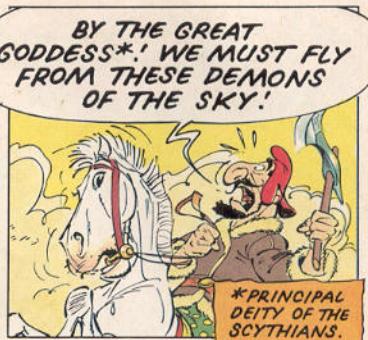
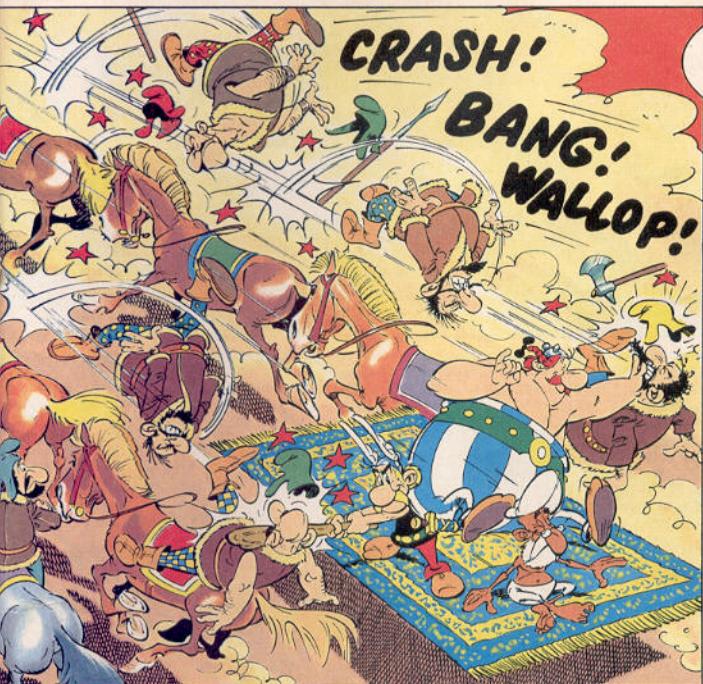
CRASH!

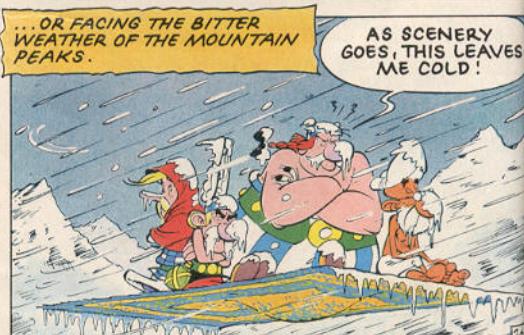
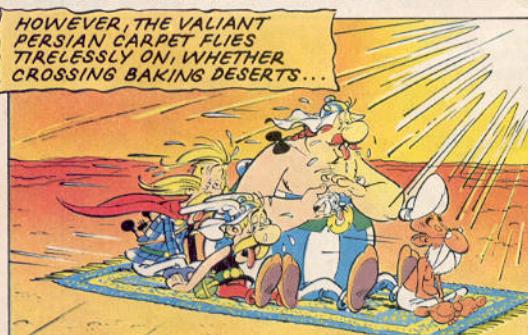
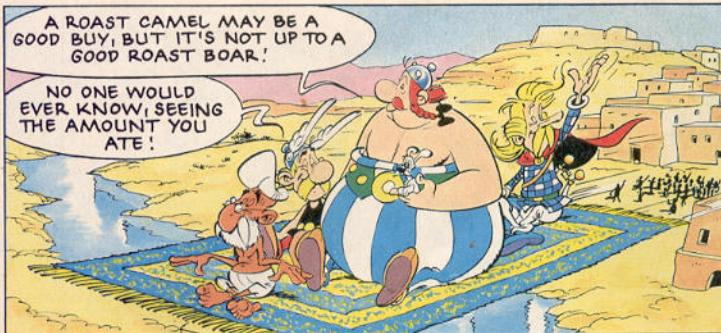
BANG! WALLOP!

BY THE GREAT GODDESS*. WE MUST FLY FROM THESE DEMONS OF THE SKY!

*PRINCIPAL DEITY OF THE SCYTHIANS.

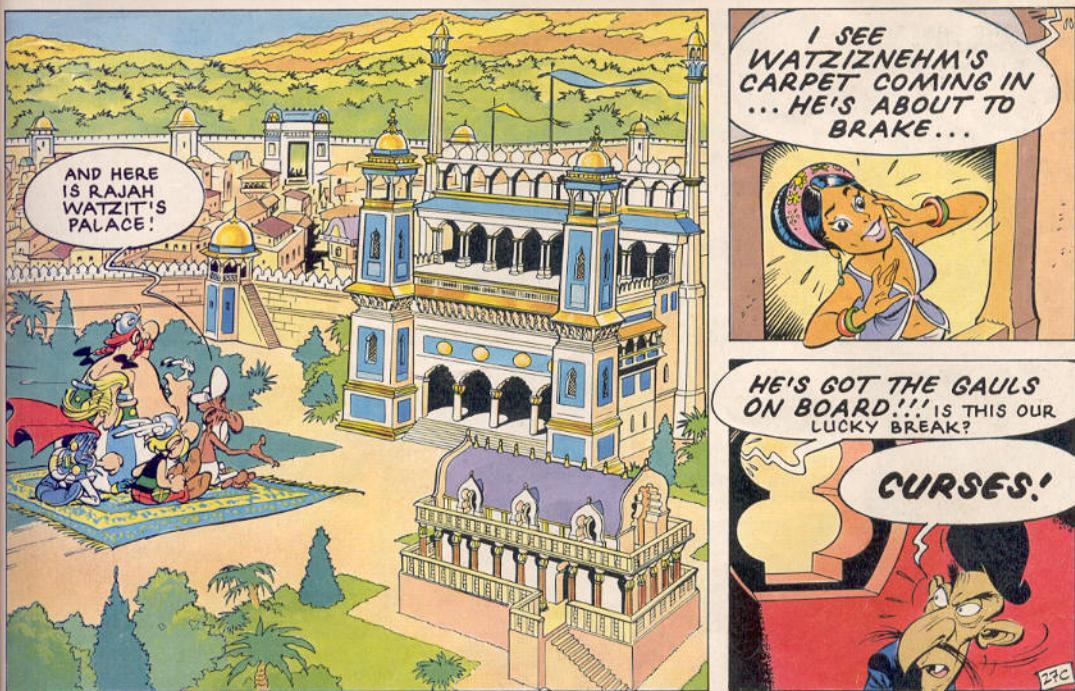
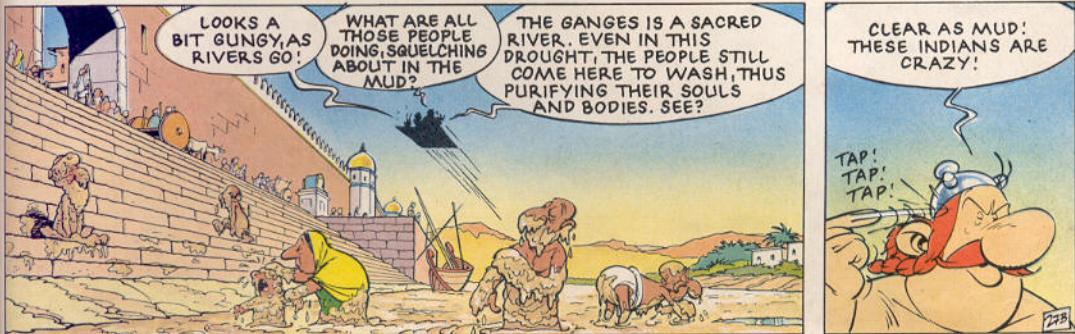
OVER ALREADY?
I PREFER ROMANS.
THEY LAST LONGER!

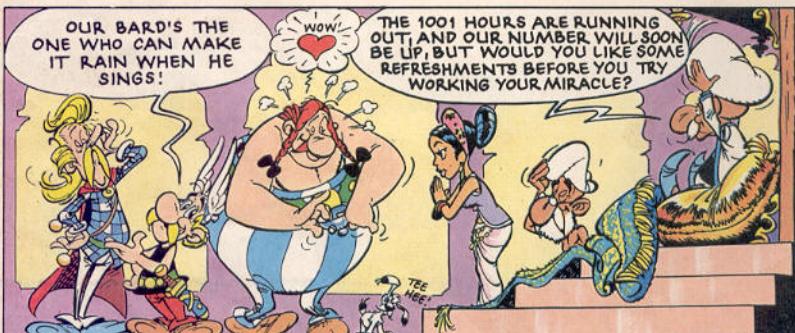
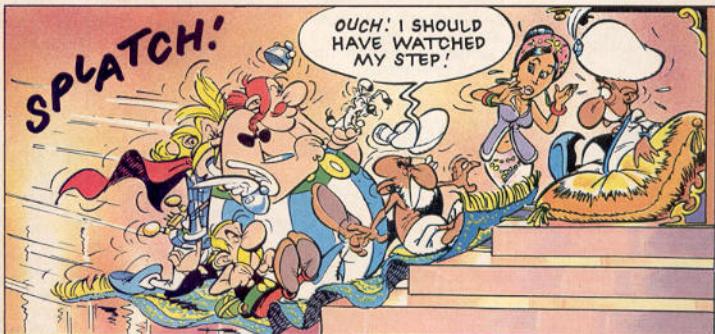
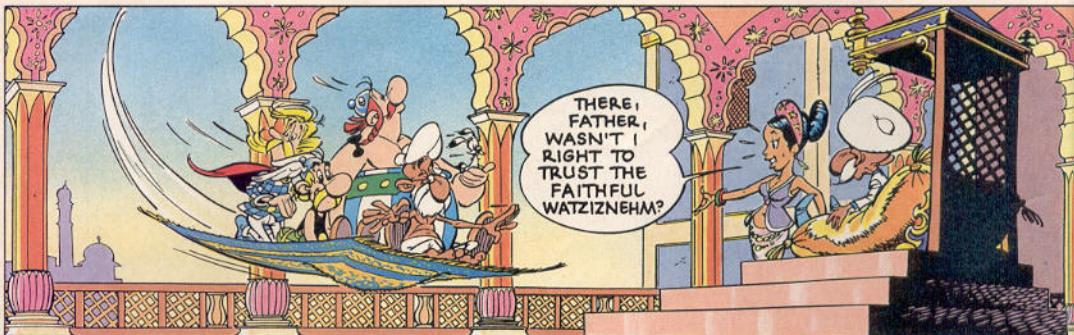


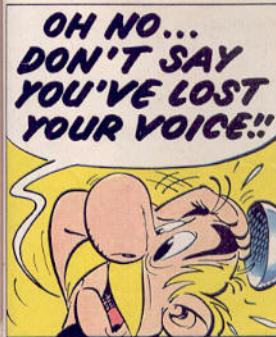
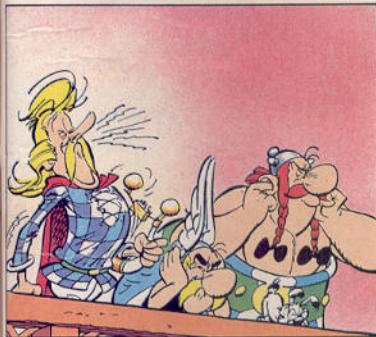


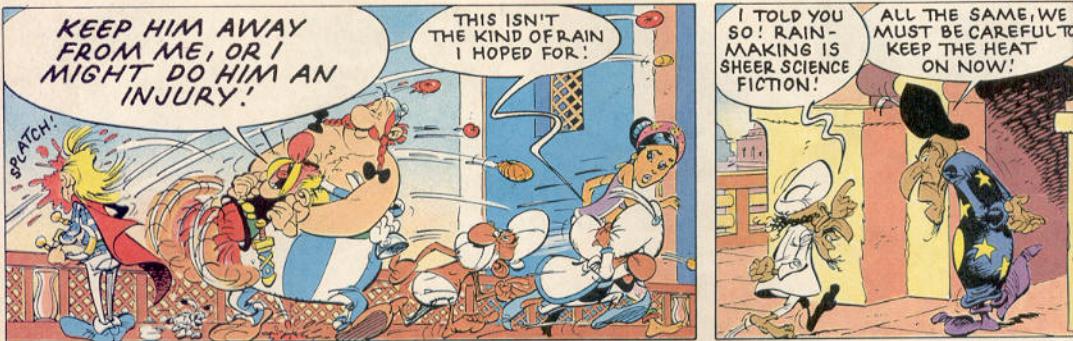
AT LAST, 30 HOURS, 30 MINUTES
AND 30 SECONDS FROM ZERO HOUR...

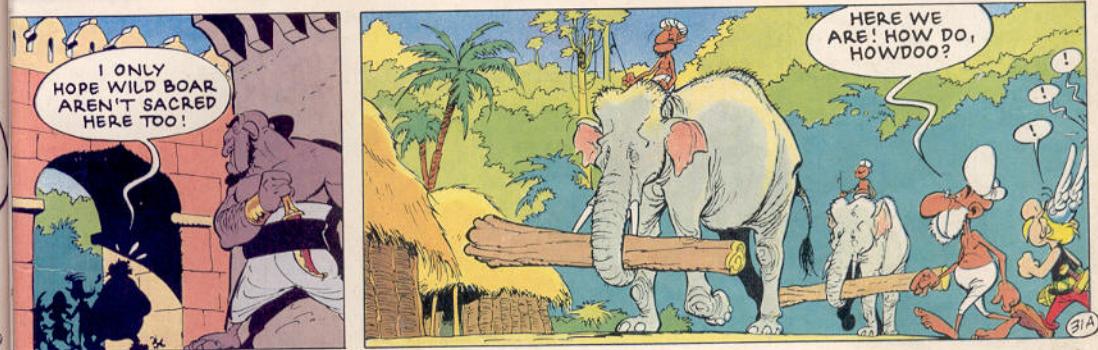
HERE WE ARE! THE
RIVER GANGES!

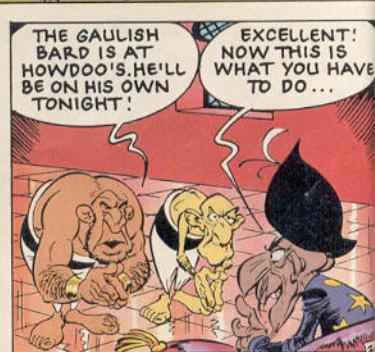
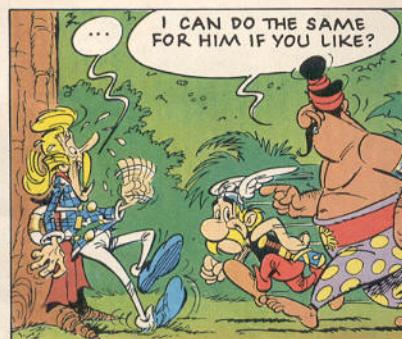
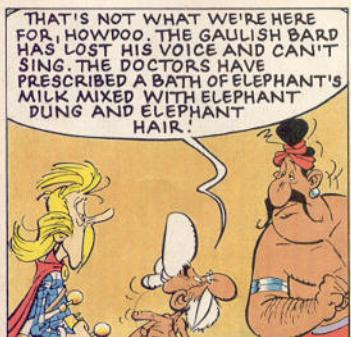


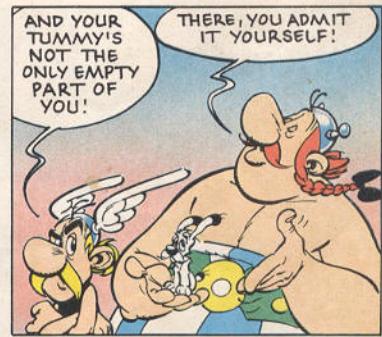
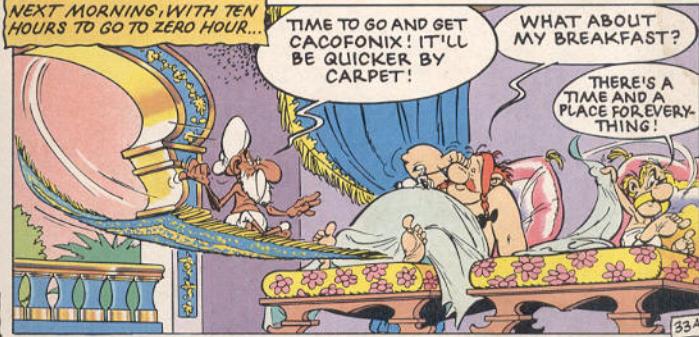
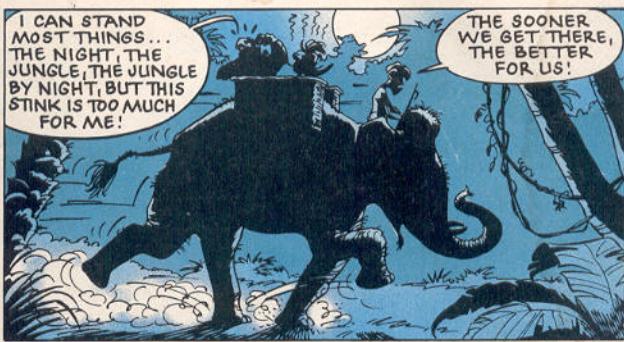




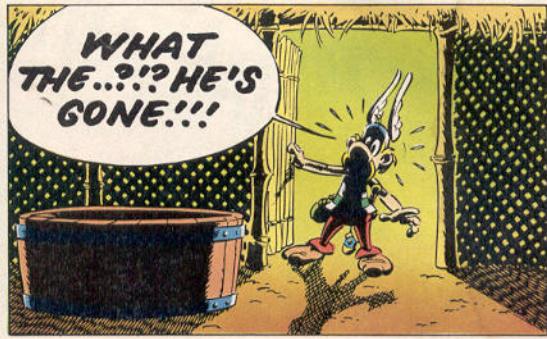
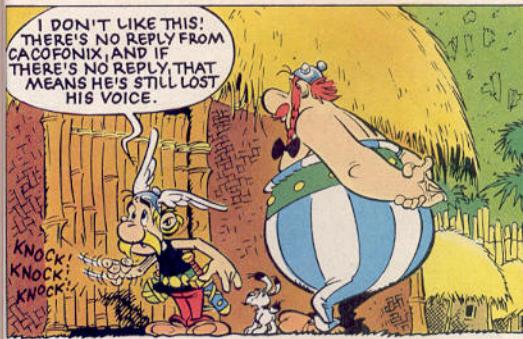


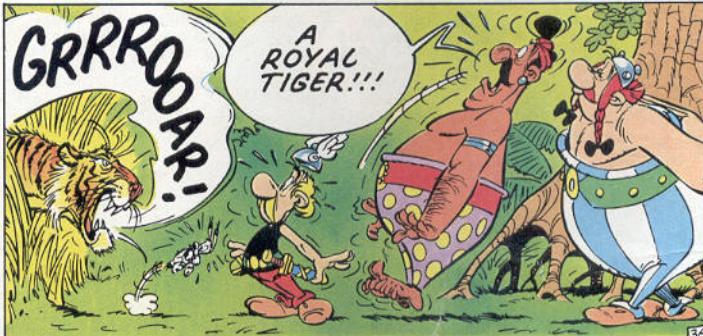
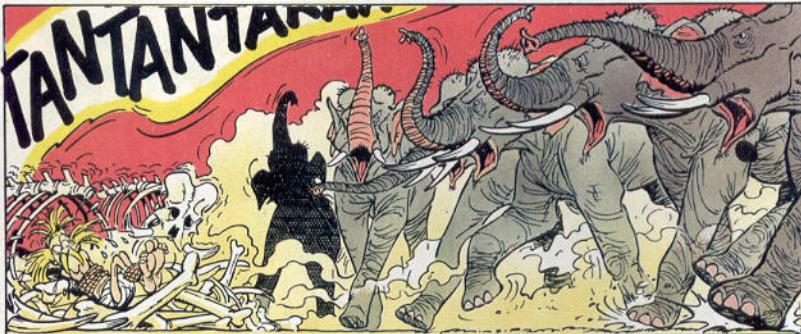












36A



36B



36B

