

BOOK 9

GOSCINNY AND UDERZO

# Asterix

*and the  
Big Fight*



HODDER & STOUGHTON

# ASTERIX AND THE BIG FIGHT

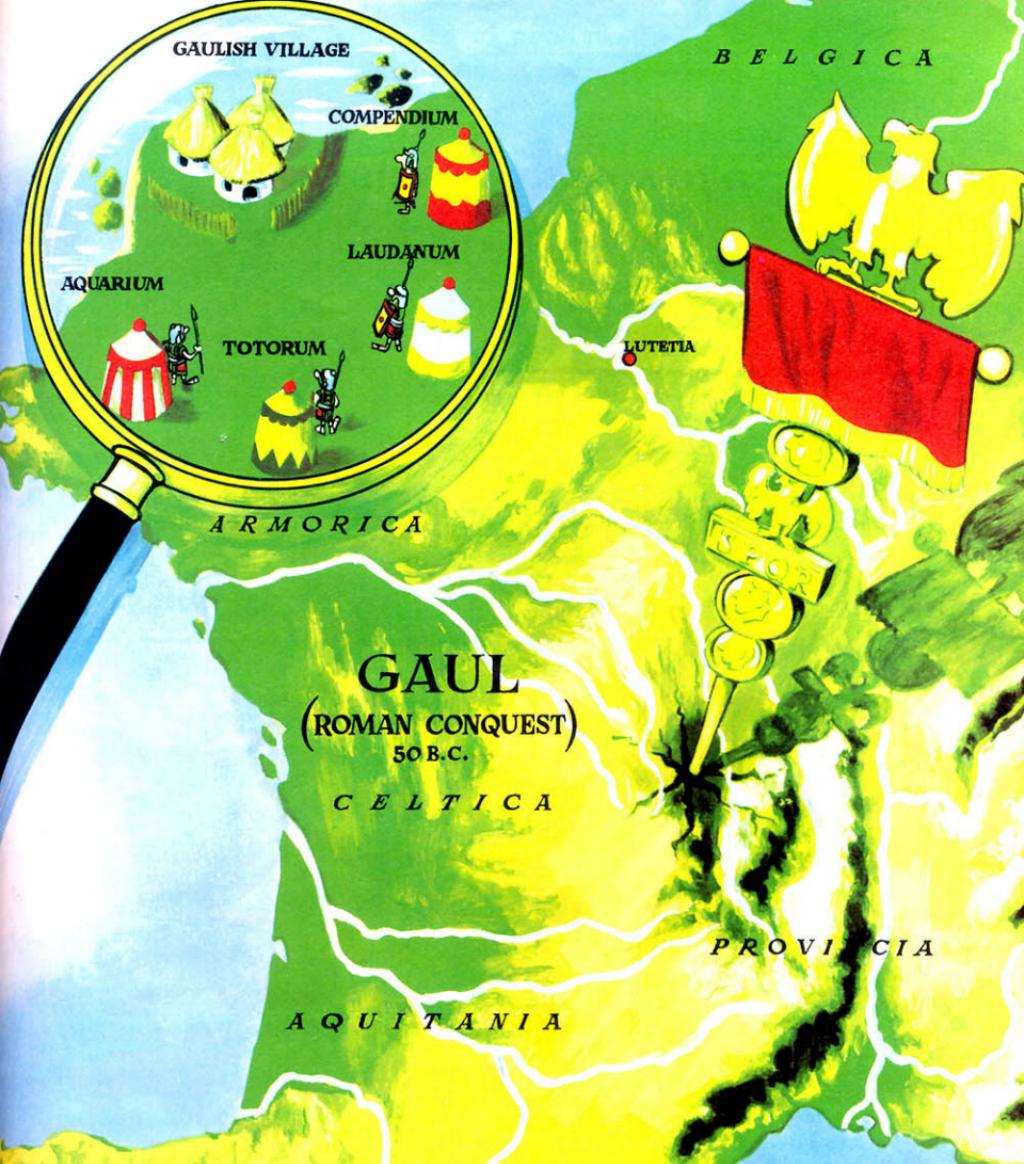
TEXT BY GOSCINNY

DRAWINGS BY UDERZO

TRANSLATED BY ANTHEA BELL AND DEREK HOCKRIDGE



HODDER DARGAUD  
LONDON SYDNEY AUCKLAND

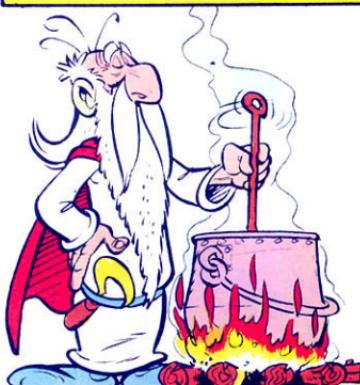


The year is 50 BC. Gaul is entirely occupied by the Romans. Well, not entirely... One small village of indomitable Gauls still holds out against the invaders. And life is not easy for the Roman legionaries who garrison the fortified camps of Totorum, Aquarium, Laudanum and Compendium...



## 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...



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...



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.



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.'

**A**T THE TIME OF THE  
ROMAN OCCUPATION  
OF GAUL, THERE WERE  
TWO KINDS OF GAULS...



FIRST, THOSE WHO ACCEPTED THE PAX ROMANA  
AND WERE TRYING TO ADAPT TO THE POWERFUL  
CIVILISATION OF THE INVADERS...

WHAT ARE  
THESE  
PILLARS FOR?

THEY MAKE  
THE HOUSE LOOK  
GALLO-ROMAN



IF YOU ASK ME,  
IT LOOKS MORE  
GALLO-GREEK...



WHAT A  
GALL!

HE'S ALWAYS  
BEEN THAT WAY...  
IT'S VERY  
GALLING!



AND THEN THERE WERE THE  
OTHER GAULS, INDOMITABLE, BRAVE  
AND TOUGH, WHO LIKED THEIR FOOD  
AND DRINK, A GOOD FIGHT AND  
A BIT OF FUN, THE FINEST  
SPECIMENS BEING FOUND IN A  
SMALL TRIBE ALREADY KNOWN  
TO US...



HEY, HERE ARE  
ASTERIX AND OBELIX  
BACK FROM  
HUNTING!



WELL,  
BOYS.  
ANY NEWS?

NO.  
WE GOT A  
BOAR EACH

BUT I HAD DOGMATIX  
TO HELP ME. HE'S A  
GREAT BOARHOUND!!!



OH YES,  
I FORGOT...  
WE MET A  
ROMAN  
PATROL



THESE  
ROMANS ARE  
CRAZY!

MEANWHILE, IN THE  
FORTIFIED ROMAN CAMP  
OF TOTORUM...

THE...THE PATROL'S BACK,  
O CENTURION  
NEBULUS NIMBUS

BY JUPITER!!!  
WHAT HAPPENED  
TO YOU?



ER... WE  
MET A COUPLE  
OF GAULS...

AND THEY  
DID HAVE A  
DOG WITH  
THEM...

AND TWO  
BOARS!

SO THAT  
MADE FIVE!



THESE GAULS  
KEEP ON MAKING  
FOOLS OF US!

WE HAVE TO FIND A  
SOLUTION, O NEBULUS  
NIMBUS... IF THEY GET TO  
HEAR OF THIS IN ROME,  
YOU'LL BE UNDER A  
CLOUD!



SO WHAT DO YOU  
SUGGEST, O FELONIUS  
CAUCUS, MY RIGHT-  
HAND MAN?

WELL...

I'VE BEEN STATIONED IN THIS  
COUNTRY A LONG TIME.  
I KNOW THE GALLISH CUSTOMS.  
AND THERE'S ONE CUSTOM  
THAT MIGHT COME IN VERY  
USEFUL... IT'S CALLED  
**THE BIG FIGHT**

**THE BIG  
FIGHT?**

YES... WHEN THE CHIEF  
OF ONE GALLISH TRIBE  
WANTS TO BECOME  
THE CHIEF OF TWO  
GALLISH TRIBES, HE  
CHALLENGES ANOTHER  
CHIEF TO SINGLE COMBAT. THE  
LOSER AND HIS WHOLE TRIBE  
SUBMIT TO THE WINNER...



...IF BOTH CHIEFS ARE  
EQUALLY STRONG, THEY  
HAVE THE RIGHT TO THROW  
BALES OF STRAW AT EACH  
OTHER. THIS THE RESULT  
IS SAID TO BE DECIDED BY  
A STRAW VOTE... IF WE HAD  
A CHIEF WHO SUPPORTED US  
IN COMMAND OF THOSE  
INDOMITABLE GALLS, THERE'D  
BE NO PROBLEM...



ALL RIGHT, BUT  
WHAT CHIEF WOULD  
BE CRAZY ENOUGH  
TO CHALLENGE THE  
TERRIBLE VITALSTA-  
TISTIX? HIS DRUID'S  
MAGIC POTION  
MAKES HIM  
INVINCIBLE!

I KNOW JUST THE  
MAN. HE'S A  
COLLABORATOR,  
AND AS COLOSSAL  
AS THE  
COLOSSEUM!



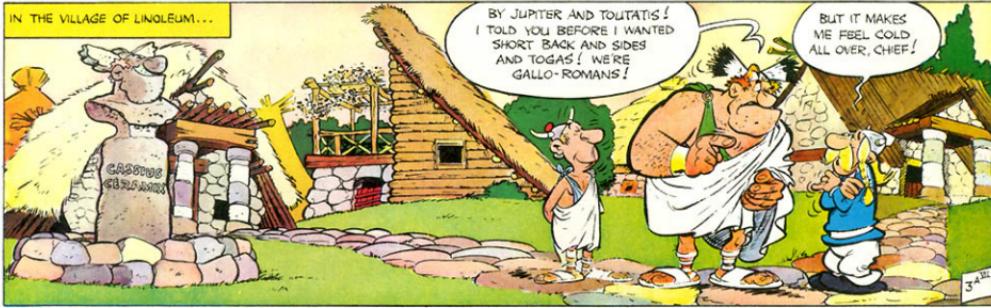
**BY MINERVA! LET'S GO  
AND SEE THIS CHIEF OF  
YOURS RIGHT AWAY!**

HE LIVES IN  
THE VILLAGE OF  
LINOUEUM, AND  
HIS NAME IS  
CASSIUS CERAMIX

AND WHILE THE ROMANS  
SET OFF, UTERLY  
CARRIED AWAY...



IN THE VILLAGE OF LINOLEUM...



BY JUPITER AND TOUTATIS!  
I TOLD YOU BEFORE I WANTED  
SHORT BACK AND SIDES  
AND TOGAS! WE'RE  
GALLO-ROMANS!

BUT IT MAKES  
ME FEEL COLD  
ALL OVER, CHIEF!

RIGHT! FOR  
A START, WE'RE  
GOING TO  
BUILD AN  
AQUEDUCT!

AN  
AQUEDUCT?

BUT, CHIEF  
CASSIUS CERAMIX, WE  
DON'T NEED AN AQUEDUCT...  
THE RIVER FLOWS  
RIGHT THROUGH OUR  
VILLAGE AND OUR  
FIELDS...

THEN WE'LL DIVERT THE COURSE  
OF THE RIVER! AQUEDUCTS ARE  
MORE ROMAN!



AND THAT'S  
ABOUT ENOUGH  
ARGUING!

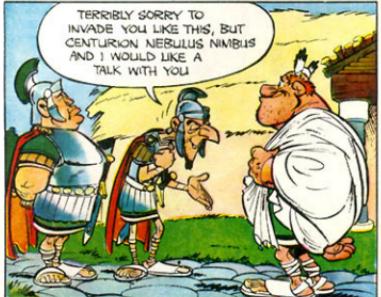
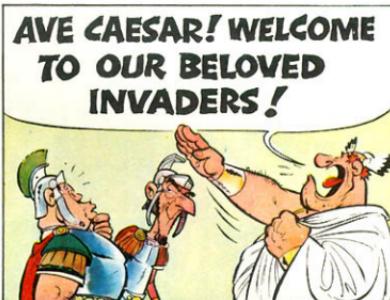
PAF!

WHAT DID I  
TELL YOU?

BY JUPITER! IF ALL  
THE GAULS WERE LIKE  
THAT, WE'D BE  
ROMANO-GAULS!



FLOC!



NEXT DAY...

WHERE ARE YOU GOING, O DRUID GETAFIX?

I'M RIGHT OUT OF MAGIC POTION, ASTERIX. I'M OFF TO THE FOREST TO PICK MORE INGREDIENTS

I FEEL WORRIED EVERY TIME OUR DRUID GOES OFF TO THE FOREST ON HIS OWN... BUT HE DOESN'T LIKE COMPANY...

I THINK I'LL FOLLOW HIM AT A DISTANCE...

WHERE ARE YOU GOING, ASTERIX?

I'M GOING TO FOLLOW OUR DRUID. THE FOREST'S NOT SAFE JUST NOW; THE ROMANS SEEM A BIT JUMPY...

THESE ROMANS ARE CRAZY... I'LL COME WITH YOU. I CAN TAKE THIS MENHIR ROUND LATER. IT'S NOT EXPRESS DELIVERY

WHAT, AND HAVE SOME KID PINCH IT?

IN THE CAMP OF TOTORUM...

COMING!

THE CAMOUFLAGED DETACHMENT IS READY TO RECEIVE YOUR ORDERS, O NEBULUS NIMBUS

EXCELLENT, BY MARS AND JUNO! NOW WHO DARES SAY THE ART OF CAMOUFLAGE IS DYING OUT IN THE ROMAN ARMY?!

ER... NEBULUS NIMBUS...

THAT'S THE GARDEN HEDGE... THE CAMOUFLAGED DETACHMENT...

...IS OVER THERE!



HMM. RIGHT!  
WHO'S IN COMMAND  
OF THIS DETACHMENT?

THIS IS  
OUR  
BUDDING  
COMMANDER

RIGHT!  
GIVE HIM HIS  
ORDERS!

CAPTURE THE DRUID, DEAD OR ALIVE!  
PATROL THE FOREST UNTIL YOU  
FIND HIM. HE OFTEN GOES TO LOOK FOR  
HERBS THERE. IF YOU SUCCEED,  
YOU GET A BONUS. IF NOT YOU'LL  
FIND YOURSELVES IN JUG

ER...CENTURION...IF  
WE GET A CHOICE, I'D  
AS SOON FIND MYSELF IN  
JUG STRAIGHT AWAY...

YOU 'ORRIBLE MAN!  
RUN LIKE A HARE, AND  
YOU'D BETTER COME BACK  
VICTORIOUS, BY MARS!

THAT  
HARE  
DIDN'T  
WORK!  
NO, THE  
HARE DIDN'T  
GET JUGGED

TRY TO LOOK  
AS BOTANICAL  
AS POSSIBLE...

THE BIG SAP...WE'RE  
TOO BIG TO PLAY  
COPE AND ROBBERS!

IF YOU ASK  
ME, WE'RE  
ALL SUCKERS!

I'M TREMBLING  
LIKE A  
LEAF!

WE'RE NOT  
OUT OF THE  
WOOD YET!

I'D AS LIEF  
NOT BE  
HERE EITHER.  
OLD BEAN!

STOP MAKING  
HORRIBLE JOKES  
...WE'VE GOT  
ENOUGH WORRIES  
ALREADY!

A LITTLE  
LATER...

DO WE FORM A SQUARE?

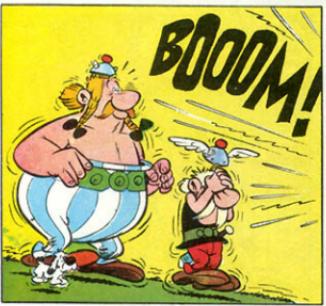
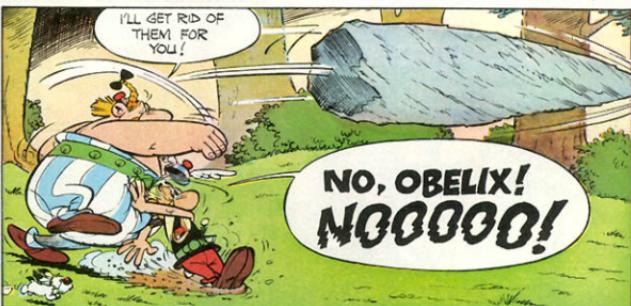
NO! FORM A SPINNEY!  
AND QUIETLY!  
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR  
ANY TEETH CHATTERING.  
GET IT?

WHERE ARE  
THEY? WHERE  
ARE THEY?

WELL, YOU SAID...  
SO WE DECIDED TO  
PLANT OURSELVES  
HERE AND...

ONE MORE  
TRICK LIKE THAT, YOU  
WEEDS, AND YOU'LL  
BE TURFED OUT  
OF THE ARMY!

SIR!  
SOMEONE'S  
COMING!



HERE COMES THE PATROL!

AHA!

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED.  
WE GOT THE DRUID!

WITH A PILUM?

ER... NO...  
WITH A MENHIR...

... AND WE LEFT HIM UNDER THE MENHIR.  
NO HUMAN BEING COULD SURVIVE  
A BLOW LIKE THAT!

I HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT... BUT I  
SOMETIMES WONDER IF THOSE GAULS  
ARE HUMAN... ANYWAY, WE'LL  
LET CASSIUS CERAMIX KNOW HE CAN  
COME AND CHALLENGE VITALSTATISTIX!

MEANWHILE...

ALL THE SAME, A LITTLE  
TAP WITH A MENHIR  
COULDNT HAVE DONE HIM  
ANY HARM... MAYBE HE  
ATE SOMETHING HEAVY  
FOR LUNCH...

WE'RE  
COMING TO  
THE VILLAGE...  
I'M GOING TO  
TRY AND REVIVE  
HIM!

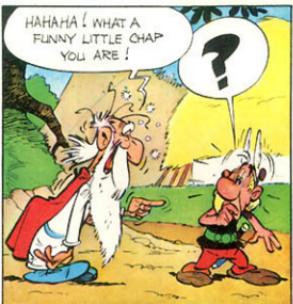
JUST A LITTLE TAP  
ON THE HEAD WITH A  
MENHIR... NOTHING TO  
SPEAK OF...

DONE IT! HE'S COMING  
BACK TO HIS SENSES! HE'S  
VERY STRONG, OUR DRUID,  
ESPECIALLY IN THE HEAD

HOW ARE  
YOU FEELING?

VERY WELL, THANK  
YOU... AND WHO MIGHT  
YOU BE, MY DEAR  
SIR?

8

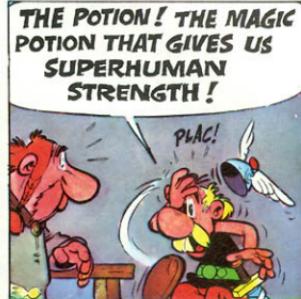
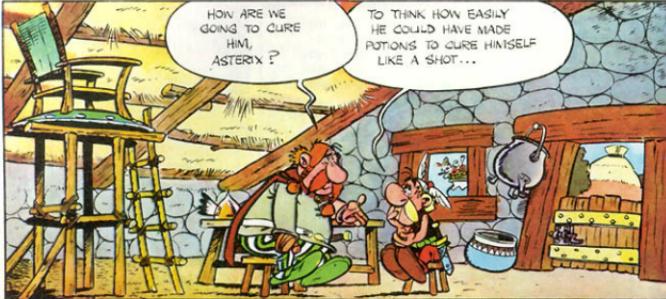


**HA! HA! HA!  
HO! HO! HO!**

YOU TAKE THE DRUID  
BACK TO HIS HUT, OBELIX.  
I'M GOING TO TALK TO  
OUR CHIEF

AS I HAVE BEEN  
ASKED FOR AN  
ENCORE ...

**THAT  
WILL DO!!**



FRIENDS, GAULS, COUNTRYMEN! I HAVE A SERIOUS ANNOUNCEMENT TO MAKE!  
OUR DRUID HAS LOST HIS MEMORY AND CAN NO LONGER MAKE THE MAGIC POTION,  
THE SECRET OF OUR STRENGTH... OUR STOCKS OF POTION ARE EXHAUSTED, SO NOW  
WE ARE VULNERABLE. WE MUST KEEP THIS DISASTER SECRET, AND HOPE NO ONE  
CHALLENGES US BEFORE OUR BELOVED DRUID IS CURED!

IN ANY CASE, NEVER FORGET  
THAT WE HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR  
EXCEPT THE SKY  
FALLING ON OUR  
HEADS!

BUT THE SKIES ARE  
LOWERING... A ROMAN  
MESSENGER ARRIVES  
AT THE VILLAGE OF  
UNOLEUM...

WHERE DO I FIND YOUR CHIEF  
CASSIUS CERAMIX?

HE'S INSPECTING PROFESSOR  
BERLIX'S SCHOOL OF MODERN  
LANGUAGES AT THE MOMENT

MENSA, MENSA,  
MENSA, MENSAE,  
MENSAE, MENSA...

AVE!



A  
B  
C



COME ON! COPY LITTLE  
PRAWNSINASPIX WHO  
SALUTED OUR ROMAN  
FRIEND SO NICELY!

I HAVE AN  
IMPORTANT MESSAGE  
FOR YOU FROM CENTURION  
NEBULUS NIMBUS, O  
CASSIUS CERAMIX!

RIGHT,  
LET'S LEAVE  
THE ROOM!



VERY GOOD,  
PRAWNSINASPIX. YOU'LL  
GET A STAR. BUT YOU  
NEEDN'T GO ON SALUTING.  
THEY'VE LEFT THE  
ROOM!

**I'M NOT SALUTING!  
I WANT TO LEAVE  
THE ROOM TOO!!!**



I'VE COME TO TELL YOU THE DRUID GETAFIX HAS BEEN DISPOSED OF. YOU CAN CHALLENGE CHIEF VITALSTATISTIX

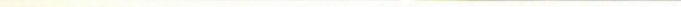
YOU'RE...  
YOU'RE QUITE  
SURE THE DRUID'S GONE?



QUITE SURE! WE DEFEATED HIM! IT WAS A FAMOUS VICTORY!

WELL THEN, TELL YOUR CENTURION I'LL CHALLENGE MY RIVAL TOMORROW!

I'M GOING TO BEAT VITALSTATISTIX! I'M THE GREATEST! AND THEN, WITH THE HELP OF THE ROMANS, I SHALL BEAT ALL THE OTHER CHEFS AND I'LL BE THE ONLY CHIEF LEFT IN GAUL!



I WILL MAKE GAUL A NEW ROME! I'LL BUILD ROMAN BATHS. I'LL COMMAND THE GAULS TO WASH ALL OVER EVERY DAY, IN STRICT ROTATION. IT WILL BE CALLED THE ORDER OF THE BATH!

BACK IN THE GAULISH VILLAGE OUR FRIENDS' LONG VIGIL IS DRAWING TO A CLOSE...

ANYWAY, IT GOT HIM INTO A GOOD MOOD...

A TINY LITTLE MENHIR LIKE THAT... IT ONLY TICKLED HIM!

OBELIX, MY FRIEND, YOU'RE BEGINNING TO GET ON MENHIR... ON MY NERVES!



WHAT'S THAT?

SOUNDS LIKE CACOFONIX SINGING

I'LL GO AND SEE



I HAVE COME TO ANNOUNCE THE ARRIVAL OF MY CHIEF CASSIUS CERANIX. HE WANTS TO TALK TO YOUR CHIEF VITALSTATISTIX. AVE!

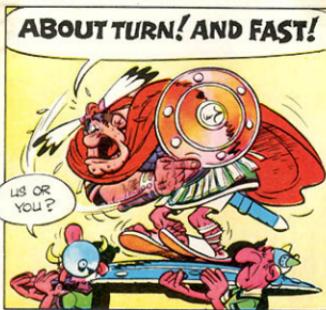
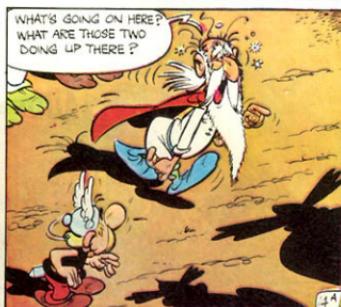


HM... CERANIX... I DON'T MUCH LIKE THE SOUND OF THIS. HE'S A BRUTAL, AMBITIOUS, UNSCRUPULOUS RENEGADE

ASTERIX, TELL HIM TO STOP LAUGHING WHENEVER HE LOOKS AT ME!







IN THE FORTIFIED CAMP OF TOTORUM...

YOU TOLD ME GETAFIX THE DRUID HAD BEEN DISPOSED OF! NOT ONLY HAS HE NOT BEEN DISPOSED OF, HE'S IN A VERY GOOD MOOD! HE CAN'T STOP LAUGHING!



I'VE CHALLENGED VITALSTATISTIK, AND NOW I CAN'T WITHDRAW WITHOUT SUBMITTING TO HIM. I'M NOT SURE I WON'T, RATHER THAN GET MYSELF MURDERED...



THANKS VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ADVICE, FELONIUS CAUCUS! SO NOW I LOOK LIKE HAVING TWO REBEL VILLAGES ON MY HANDS INSTEAD OF ONE! OH, WON'T CAESAR BE PLEASED!



DON'T LET'S GET UPSET, WE STILL HAVE PLENTY OF TIME TO SEND PATROLS OUT TO THE FOREST TO CAPTURE THE DRUID...



QUOD ERAT DEMONSTRANDUM

OH, QUITE EASILY DONE!

MEANWHILE, IN THE GAULISH VILLAGE...

GETAFIX, YOU MUST LISTEN TO ME: YOU HAVE TO PREPARE THE MAGIC POTION TO GIVE OUR CHIEF SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH!

LOOK, WHO IS THIS GETAFIX YOU KEEP ON ABOUT?



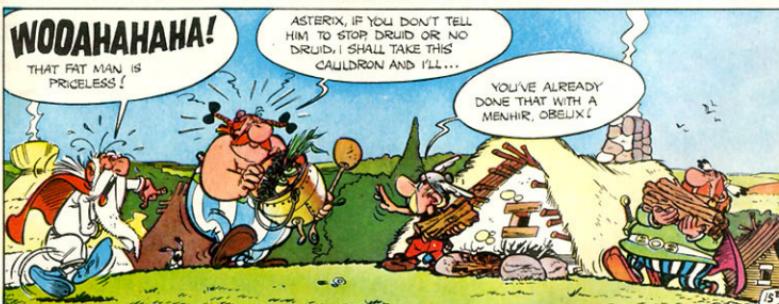
LET'S GET EVERYTHING READY. PERHAPS HIS MEMORY WILL COME BACK. OBELIX, YOU GO AND FETCH THE INGREDIENTS FROM GETAFIX'S HUT, AND A CAULDRON

WOAHAAHAHA!

THAT FAT MAN IS PRICELESS!

ASTERIX, IF YOU DON'T TELL HIM TO STOP DRUID OR NO DRUID, I SHALL TAKE THIS CAULDRON AND I'LL...

YOU'VE ALREADY DONE THAT WITH A MENHIR, OBELIX!





COMMANDED BY  
LEGIONARY INFIRMUS -  
PURPUS, A PATROL  
VENTURES INTO  
THE FOREST...

THIS IS ODD... WHERE  
ARE THE GAULS? ONE OF  
THEM OUGHT TO HAVE  
KNOCKED US OVER THE  
HEAD BY NOW!

**BOOOM!**

HEAR  
THAT?

WHAT ARE THEY  
UP TO? WHAT ON  
EARTH ARE  
THEY UP TO?



THEY'RE MAKING  
HORRIBLE NOISES IN  
THAT VILLAGE, AND  
FIRING CAULDRONS  
GREAT DISTANCES,  
VERY HARD...

**CAULDRONS? HOW DARE  
THEY TAKE POT SHOTS AT MY  
LEGIONARIES?!**

WHAT'S MORE,  
THIS ONE'S BEEN USED  
TO MAKE FISH  
SOUP!

OH, SO THAT'S THE WAY  
IT IS? RIGHT, WINKLE  
THAT IDIOT OUT THERE  
AND TELL HIM HE'S VOL-  
UNTEERED TO GO AND  
SPY ON THE GAULS!



SOMEONE OUGHT TO TASTE IT TO FIND OUT IF IT IS THE MAGIC POTION ...

YES, BUT IF IT ISN'T IT MIGHT BE INDIGESTIBLE...

I WILL TASTE IT... AFTER ALL, THE DRUID MAY BE OFF COLOUR BECAUSE OF MY MENHIR!

BLUP! BLUP! BLUP!

TEE HEE HEE, TEE HEE HEE!



NO, OBELIX ! I AM THE CHIEF. IT'S MY JOB TO TASTE IT !

BUT IF YOU GO OFF BANG, CERAMIX WILL BECOME OUR CHIEF, AND HE WON'T EVEN HAVE TO FIGHT FOR IT !

WE REALLY WANT A ROMAN TO TASTE IT... WE'RE SURE TO FIND A ROMAN SOMEWHERE TO DO THIS LITTLE JOB FOR US !

MEANWHILE IN THE FORTIFIED CAMP OF TOTORUM...

HAS INFIRMOPURPUS GONE YET ?

NO, HE WON'T COME OUT OF HIS CAULDRON



ARE YOU GOING TO COME OUT OF THERE ?

NO !

AREN'T YOU ASHAMED OF YOURSELF, HIDING IN A CAULDRON SMELLING OF FISH !

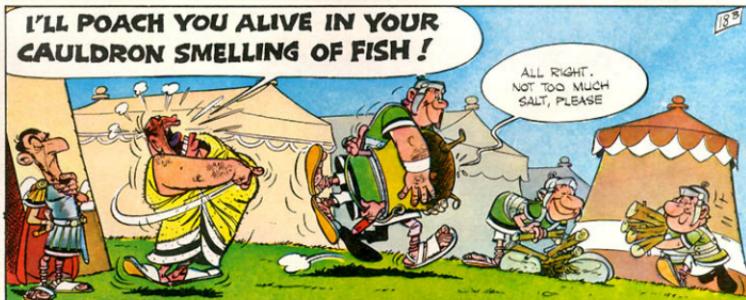
NO, I AM NOT ASHAMED OF MYSELF, HIDING IN A CAULDRON SMELLING OF FISH !



I'D RATHER BE HERE INSIDE A CAULDRON SMELLING OF FISH THAN IN THE GALLISH VILLAGE OUTSIDE A CAULDRON SMELLING OF FISH !

I'LL POACH YOU ALIVE IN YOUR CAULDRON SMELLING OF FISH !

ALL RIGHT, NOT TOO MUCH SALT, PLEASE



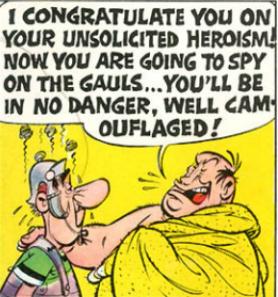
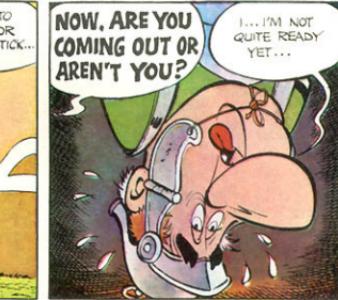
DULCE ET DECORUM  
EST PRO PATRIA  
MORI

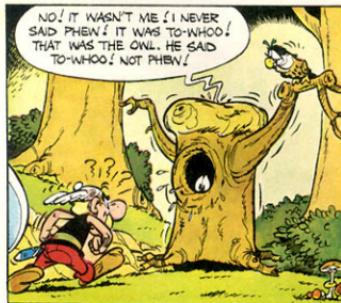
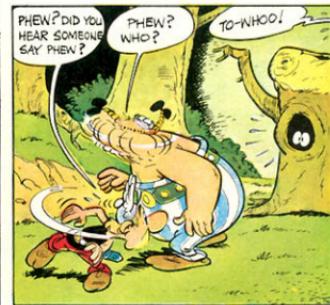
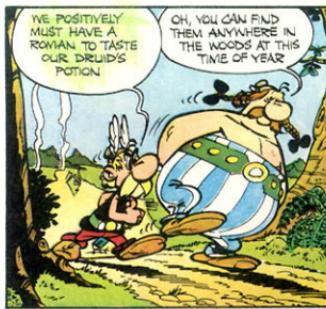
- DON'T TRY MY PATIENCE  
TOO FAR! I WARN YOU I'M  
AT BOILING POINT!

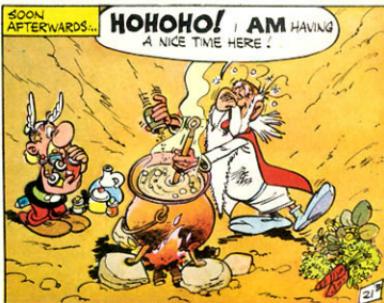
WE OUGHT TO  
STIR HIM, OR  
ELSE HE'LL STICK...

NOW, ARE YOU  
COMING OUT OR  
AREN'T YOU?

I... I'M NOT  
QUITE READY  
YET...







THE UNHAPPY INFIRMOPURPLES  
DRINKS SEVERAL HIGHLY-COLOURED  
POTIONS ONE AFTER ANOTHER...



...WITH RESULTS THAT...



...WHILE DECORATIVE...



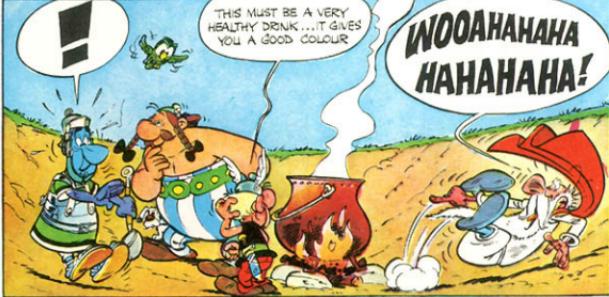
...ARE NOT...



...THE RESULTS...



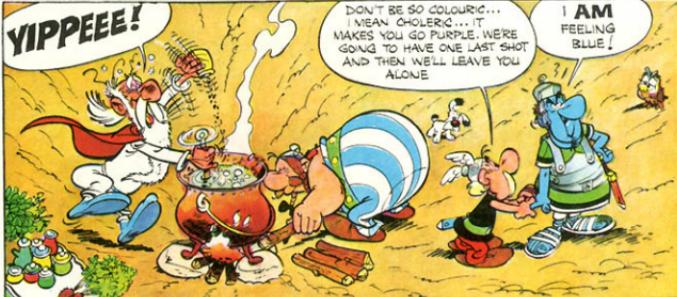
...DESIRED!



STOP IT! I'VE HAD ENOUGH!  
I WANT MY SCHOOLGIRL COMPLEXION BACK THAT MADE ME SO  
MANY CONQUESTS ON THE  
APPIAN WAY!



YIPPEEE!



DON'T BE SO COLOURFUL...  
I MEAN CHOLERIC... IT  
MAKES YOU GO PURPLE. WE'RE  
GOING TO HAVE ONE LAST SHOT  
AND THEN WE'LL LEAVE YOU  
ALONE

I AM  
FEELING  
BLUE!

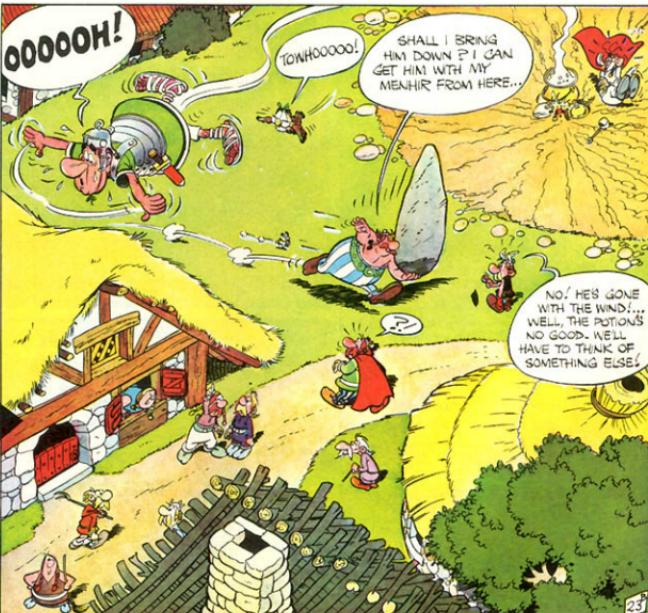
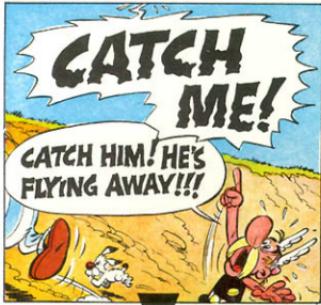
SOON  
AFTERWARDS...



LOOK, ASTERIX,  
HE'S SKY-BLUE...

THAT'S BECAUSE  
HE'S TURNED PALE...  
COME ON, DRINK THIS!





THE FORTIFIED  
ROMAN CAMP OF  
TOTORUM ...

SOON  
AFTERWARDS...

WHAT DO YOU WANT,  
AND WHAT HAVE YOU  
GOT AT THE END OF  
THAT ROPE ?

HEY!

?

SEND UP AN ANCHOR...  
AND NONE OF YOUR  
CLEVER REMARKS!

?



COME AND SEE FOR  
YOURSELF...  
YOU'D NEVER BELIEVE IT,  
BY JUPITER !

FEATHER-BRAINED,  
MORE LIKE! GET  
HIM DOWN !

I CAN'T!  
I'M AS LIGHT  
AS A  
FEATHER !



NOW THEY'VE SHOWN  
THEIR TRUE COLOURS!  
I SAY THEIR DRAID HAS  
GONE CRAZY. HE'S FORGOTTEN  
HOW TO PREPARE THE  
MAGIC POTION !

THAT'S NO WAY  
TO APPEAR  
BEFORE YOUR  
COMMANDING  
OFFICER! COME  
DOWN HERE  
AT ONCE!!!



WELL, WELL,  
VERY  
INTERESTING!

YOU CAN  
LET HIM GO  
NOW!



ALL IS WELL ! THAT NENHIR OBVIOUSLY MADE SOME IMPACT ON THE DRUID ! HE HAS LOST HIS POWERS FOR MAKING MAGIC POTION

LET'S GET AT THE GAULS ! THERE ARE A LOT MORE OF US THAN THEM !

IT'S QUITE UNNECESSARY TO RISK INJURY... LET CASSIUS CERAMIK DO THE DIRTY WORK FOR US. WELL ATTACK ONLY IF HE LOSES

GNNNNEE HEEHEE!

HOHA HAHA!

HEY...WHAT ABOUT ME ?



HE FLIES AT NIGHT,  
JUST LIKE ME ! HE'S THE  
NICEST TREE I EVER  
LIGHTED UPON !

WHAT'S TO BECOME OF ME?  
YOU'RE STARTING TO GET  
ME DOWN ... I HOPE !

DON'T WORRY ! THE EFFECTS OF  
THESE GAULISH POTIONS ARE ONLY  
TEMPORARY ! IT WILL SOON WEAR  
OFF. HAVE A GOOD NIGHT !

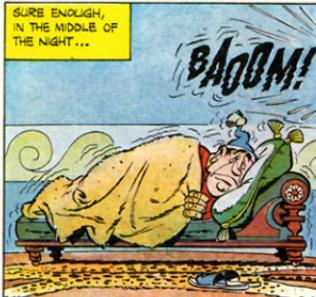
WHAT'S UP  
WITH YOU ?



SURE ENOUGH,  
IN THE MIDDLE OF  
THE NIGHT...

BAOUM !

HM... THE  
POTION'S WORN  
OFF



WHILE THE ROMANS ARE  
DEAD TO THE WORLD,  
THE GAULS PASS A  
SLEEPLESS NIGHT...

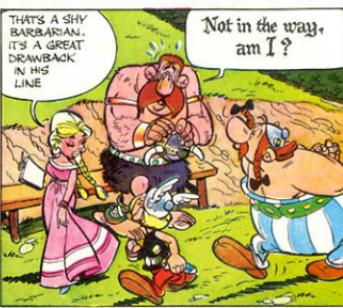
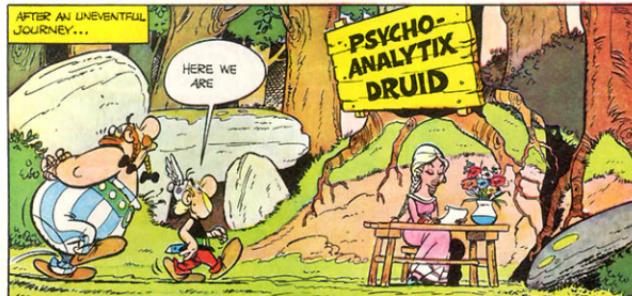
WE NEED  
ANOTHER DRUID  
TO CURE OUR  
DRUID !

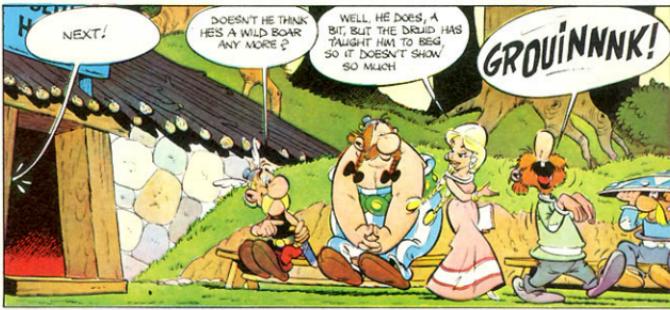
WHAT A GOOD  
IDEA BY  
TOUTATIS !

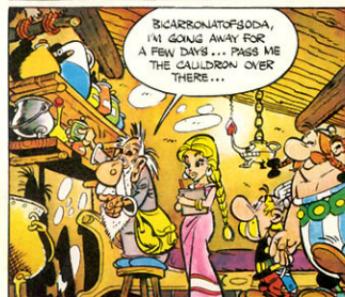
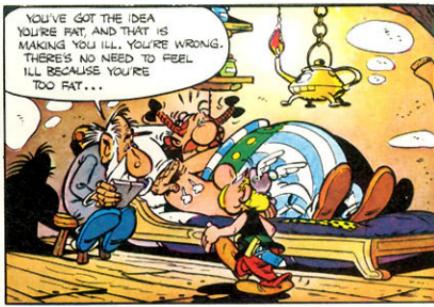


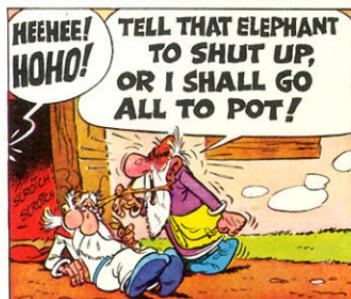
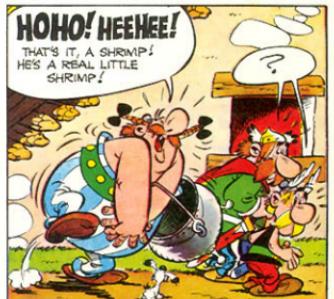
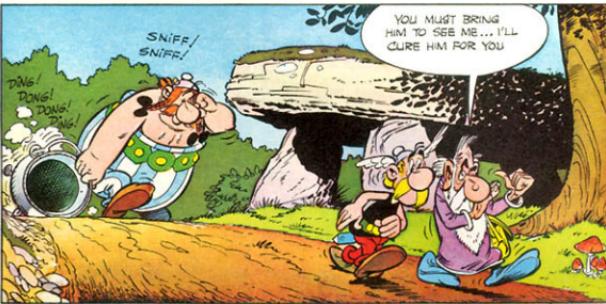
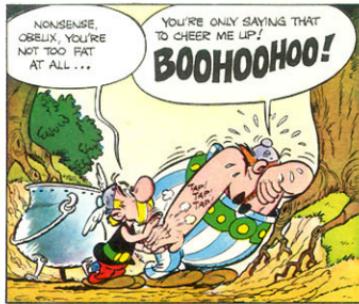
I KNOW A DRUID LIVING  
NEAR HERE . HIS SPECIALTY  
IS CURING THE MENTALLY  
DISTURBED.  
HE'S CALLED  
PSYCHOANALYTIX









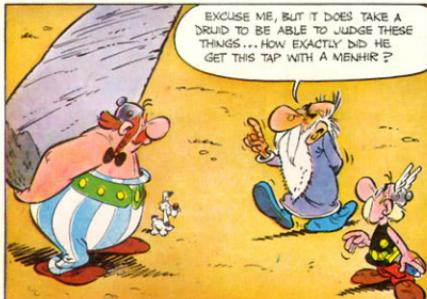
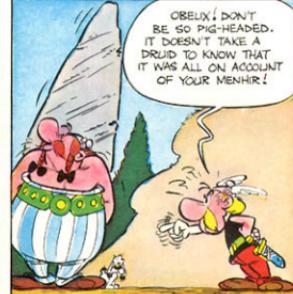


PUT MY CAULDRON  
ON TO BOIL ... IT LOOKS  
AS THOUGH I'LL HAVE TO  
MAKE SOME POTIONS

SOON  
AFTERWARDS...

I KNOW SOME VERY  
CLEVER TRICKS WITH A  
CAULDRON TOO !

NOW REMEMBER,  
WHATEVER YOU DO DON'T  
CONTRADICT THE  
PATIENT

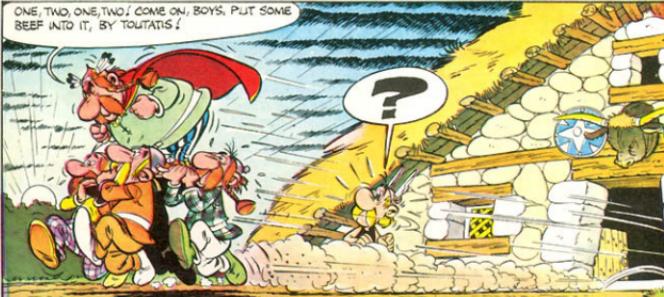


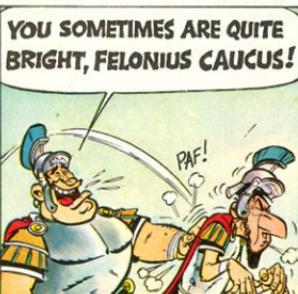
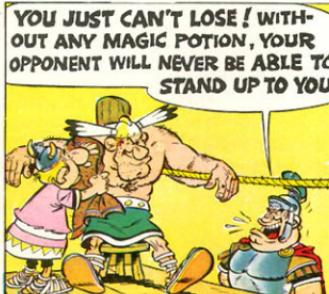
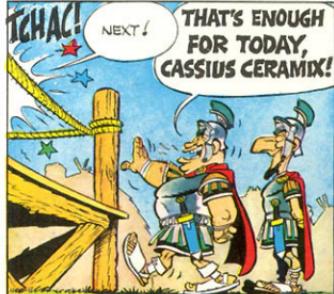
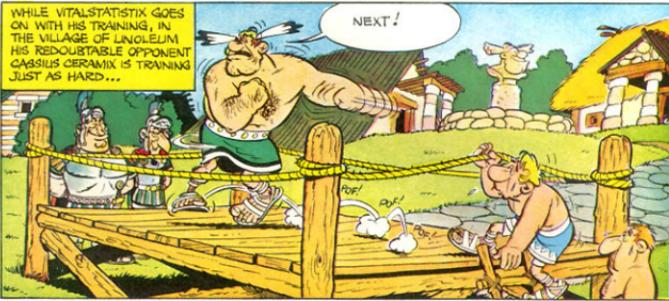
OBELIX, GO AND DELIVER  
YOUR MENHIR AND  
LEAVE US ALONE !!!





DAWN HAS NOT YET  
CRACKED WHEN...

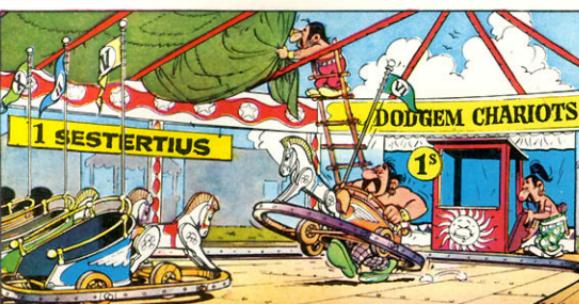
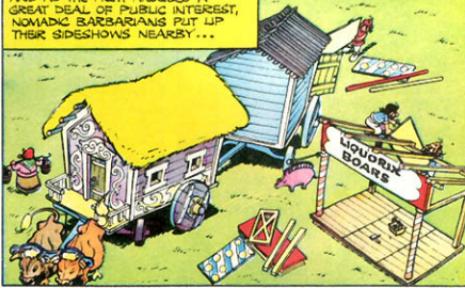




WHILE THE COMBATANTS ARE IN TRAINING, THE ROMANS BUILD THE RING FOR THE BIG FIGHT OUTSIDE THE CAMP...



AND AS THE FIGHT AROUSES A GREAT DEAL OF PUBLIC INTEREST, NOMADIC BARBARANS PUT UP THEIR SIDESHOWS NEARBY...



### DODGEM CHARIOTS

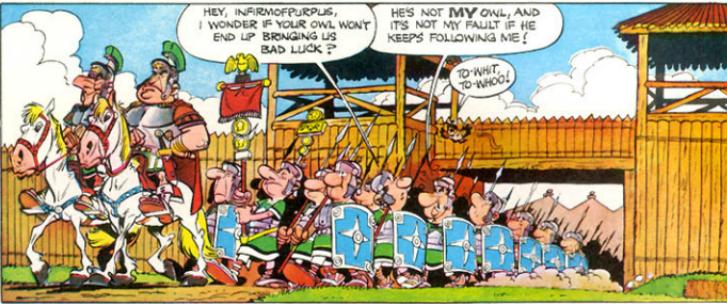
1S



CATAPULT  
1 BRONZE  
SHOT  
SPEARS  
2 BRONZE  
SOFT-THROWN



**GARRISON...SHOULDER  
...ARMS! TO THE  
RINGSIDE...FORWARD  
...MARCH!**



**CASSIUS CERNABY ARRIVES AT THE RINGSIDE ...**



**MEANWHILE...**



**FRIENDS! I PROMISE  
TO DO MY UTMOST  
TO WIN,  
BY TOLIAHTS!**

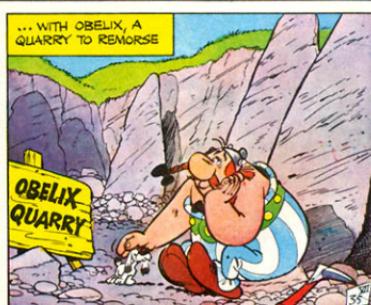


**OUR FRIENDS' VILLAGE IS  
ALMOST DESERTED...ONLY  
THE TWO DRUIDS ARE LEFT...**

**JUST TASTE THAT, MY  
DEAR SIR, I THINK YOU'LL  
BE AMUSED BY ITS  
PRESUMPTION!**



**...WITH OBELIX, A  
QUARRY TO REMORSE**



LONG LIVE VITALSTATISTIX!  
BRAVO! VITALSTATISTIX,  
BY BELENOS!

CASSIUS CERAMIX FOR  
EVER! CASSIUS CERAMIX,  
BY JUPITER!



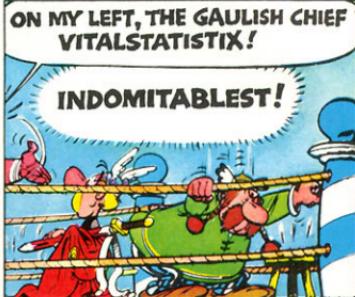
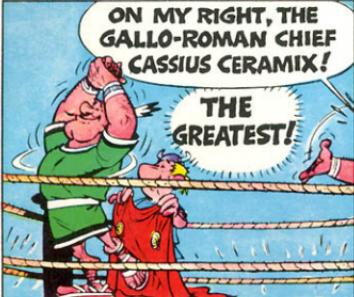
THIS FIGHT WILL GO ON  
UNTIL ONE OF THEM  
THROWS IN THE TOWEL!  
THE STAKES ARE AS  
FOLLOWS: THE WINNER  
RECEIVES THE HOMAGE  
OF VITAL... OF THE  
LOSER AND HIS TRIBE!

ON MY RIGHT, THE  
GALLO-ROMAN CHIEF  
CASSIUS CERAMIX!

THE  
GREATEST!

ON MY LEFT, THE GAULISH CHIEF  
VITALSTATISTIX!

INDOMITABLEST!



THIS IS AN ALL-IN CONTEST.  
TO YOUR CORNERS, AND WHEN  
YOU HEAR THE BUCINA,  
COME OUT FIGHTING!  
AND MAY CASSIUS CER... MAY  
THE BEST MAN WIN!

ALEA JACTA EST!



WHERE'S OBELIX?  
AT HOME, HE'S  
SAD BECAUSE HE  
THINKS ALL THIS IS  
HIS FAULT



GO AND GET HIM!  
WE'LL NEED HIM IF THINGS  
TURN NASTY AFTER  
THE FIGHT!

AND SO THE  
BIG FIGHT  
BEGINS!

PAAA  
!PR!



BACK AT THE VILLAGE  
OBELIX IS AT  
ROCK BOTTOM...

IT'S ALL MY FAULT...  
WHEN I THINK THAT ONE  
LITTLE TAP WITH  
A MENHIR...

A TAP WITH A MENHIR!  
THEN WHY SHOULDN'T  
ANOTHER TAP  
CURE OUR  
DRUID?

I'M CERTAIN NO ONE  
ELSE WOULD HAVE THOUGHT  
OF THIS SOLUTION! YOU'VE GOT  
TO BE PRETTY INTELLIGENT TO THINK  
OF A SOLUTION LIKE THAT!

OBELIX  
QUARRY

OBELIX  
QUARRY

MEANWHILE...

WHAT SHALL  
WE DO  
NOW?

SUPPOSE WE  
PUT ALL THE REST  
OF THE INGREDIENTS  
INTO ONE CAULDRON?  
WOULDN'T THAT  
BE FUN!

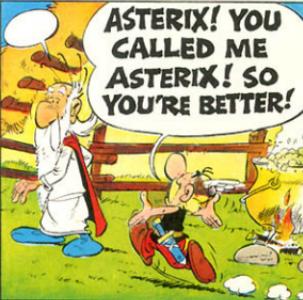
I BET WE COME OUT  
IN RED AND  
GREEN CHECKS!

OR YELLOW WITH  
BLUE SPOTS!  
**HEEEHEEEHEEE!**



ASTERIX! YOU  
CALLED ME  
ASTERIX! SO  
YOU'RE BETTER!

**PAFFF!**



# OBELIX!... DID YOU THROW THIS MENHIR?

OF COURSE,  
TO CURE OUR  
DRUID...

# YOU'RE NOT GOING TO TELL ME I'VE DONE THE WRONG THING AGAIN?!

WITH GREAT RESTRAINT!

LISTEN, WE  
HAVEN'T GOT TIME  
TO ARGUE...

STOP ARGUING  
AND GET ME  
OUT OF HERE!

TOUTATIS BE PRAISED!  
OUR DRUID IS  
STILL CURED!

WHAT D'YOU MEAN,  
STILL? I'VE JUST CURED  
HIM WITH MY CAREFUL  
NURSING!

WHAT EXACTLY  
HAS BEEN HAPPENING  
BETWEEN THOSE  
TWO KNOCKS?

LET ME  
EXPLAIN,  
GETAFIX...

AFTER  
ASTERIX'S  
STORY...

QUICK! EMPTY  
THAT CALDRION!  
BRING SOME HOT  
WATER! I'M GOING  
TO MAKE SOME  
MAGIC POTION!

I'M AFRAID THE  
FIGHT HAS  
ALREADY STARTED,  
AND IF CASSIUS  
CERAMIX WINS WE  
ARE CONDEMNED TO  
BE HIS SUBJECTS!

HEY, WAIT A BIT!  
I HAVEN'T HAD ANY OF  
THAT YET!

NO, OBELIX, I DON'T  
NEED YOU TO TASTE THE  
MAGIC POTION! IT WOULD BE  
MORE USEFUL IF YOU FOUND  
SOMETHING TO CARRY IT IN

SOON  
AFTERWARDS...

IT'S NO FUN  
HERE ANY MORE.  
I'M OFF!

OUR THREE FRIENDS ARE NEARING THE SPOT WHERE THE BIG FIGHT...

WHY ARE YOU BRINGING THAT MENHIR, OBREUX? I DON'T LIKE TO SEE YOU WITH ONE OF THOSE THINGS ANY MORE!

IT MIGHT COME IN HANDY, ASTERIX, YOU NEVER KNOW!

...HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR HALF AN HOUR...

**WILL-YOU-STOP-RUNNING!!!**

YOU SHARE OUT THE POTION WHILE I GO AND TELL THE CHIEF

PERHAPS I COULD...

NOW YOU FELL IN IT WHEN YOU WERE A BABY!

CHIEF VITALSTATISTIX!

SWIFFEE!

YES? WHAT IS IT?

GETAFIX IS CURED. WE'RE FIGHTING FIT NOW!

AHA!

THAT BIT OF NEWS REDOUBLES MY STRENGTH

AH! PURR! PUFF! AT LAST... PUFF! PUFF! ...YOU'VE STOPPED RUNNING!

TCHAC!

HUMMMEE!

SPLATCH!

I'M THE MOST BEAUTIFUL! I'M THE GREATEST! I'M THE CHAMPION!

SINCE I AM THE WINNER, I  
REMAIN CHIEF OF MY OWN TRIBE  
AND I ALSO TAKE OVER THE  
TRIBE OF CERAMIX!

ONE  
MOMENT,  
GAUL!

WE HAVE OTHER PLANS! VERY WELL,  
YOU MAY HAVE WON THAT FIGHT! NOW  
WE'RE GOING TO SEE WHETHER YOUR  
PEOPLE CAN DEFEAT THE INVINCIBLE  
ROMAN LEGIONS!

IN... INVINCIBLE ROMAN  
LEGIONS... ER...  
IS THAT US?

WE WEREN'T  
EXPECTING ANYTHING  
ELSE FROM YOU DOUBLE-  
DEALING ROMANS!  
VERY WELL, WE SHALL  
MEET YOU ON THE  
PLAIN!

LONG LIVE OUR CHIEF!  
LONG LIVE VITALSTATISTIX!

SOON  
AFTERWARDS...

LEGIONARIES! I AM LEADING YOU TO  
A VICTORY AS CERTAIN AS IT WILL BE  
GLORIOUS! FORWARD MARCH!

ER...

O CENTURION, WE DON'T WANT  
TO BE AWKWARD, BUT EVERY TIME  
WE ATTACK THESE SAVAGES, THEY START  
LAUGHING AND THEY MAKE  
MINCemeAT OF US...

THEY'LL LAUGH THE OTHER SIDE OF THEIR  
FACES THIS TIME, LEGIONARIES! THEIR DRUID  
HAS GONE MAD, THEY HAVE NO MAGIC POTION  
AND WE OUTNUMBER THEM A HUNDRED TO ONE!

DOWN WITH THE  
GAULS, COMRADES,  
BY JUPITER!!!

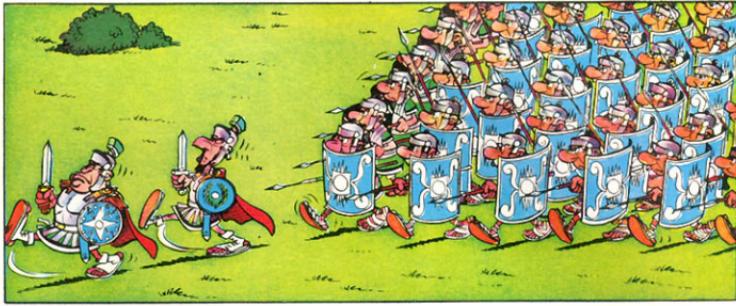
FORWARD,  
BY  
JUNO!!!

NO MAGIC  
POTION? A  
HUNDRED TO  
ONE?

GOOD  
BOYS!

COMMANDED BY ITS OFFICERS, THE  
ROMAN LEGION BEGINS TO CARRY OUT  
ITS IMPRESSIVE MANOEUVRES

FORM A  
CUNEUS!



MEANWHILE, THE  
GAULS ARE WAITING...



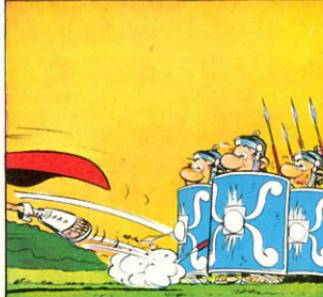
SUDDENLY...



HE'S NOT  
LAUGHING!

I TELL YOU HE  
IS!

I'LL SHOW YOU WHETHER  
HE'S LAUGHING!



NOW, BOYS,  
**FORWARD!**

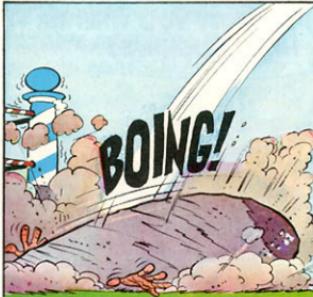


... BUT THEY SEEM  
STRIKINGLY EFFECTIVE!



OH DEAR, OH DEAR!  
IT'S TIME TO  
SLIP AWAY...

I SAID : I  
**GIVE IN!**



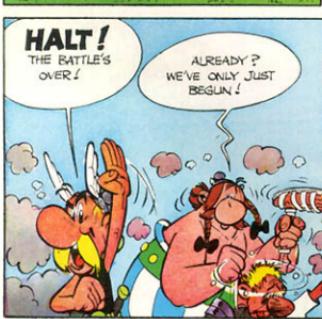
COMMANDED BY  
ITS OFFICERS, THE  
ROMAN LEGION  
ENGAGES UPON A  
NEW MANOEUVRE  
KNOWN AS 'THE  
HASTY RETREAT'.

**YOU'LL HEAR  
MORE ABOUT THIS.  
FELONIUS CAUCUS!  
I'LL REMEMBER  
YOUR GOOD ADVICE!**

**HALT!**

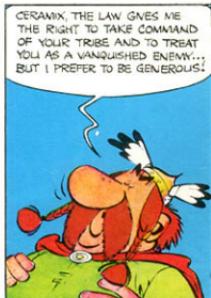
THE BATTLE'S  
OVER!

ALREADY?  
WE'VE ONLY JUST  
BEGUN!



AND THERE FOLLOWS THE QUIET  
AFTERMATH OF BATTLE ...

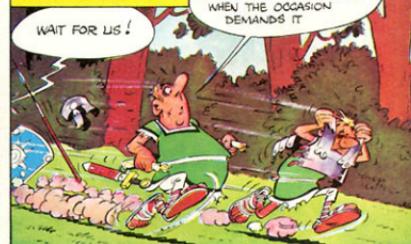




LIFE HAS CHANGED IN THE GALLO-ROMAN VILLAGE OF LINDENBUT. THE INHABITANTS HAVE RETURNED TO THEIR TRADITIONAL GALLISH WAYS, THEY LIKE THEIR FOOD AND DRINK, A GOOD FIGHT AND A BIT OF FUN...



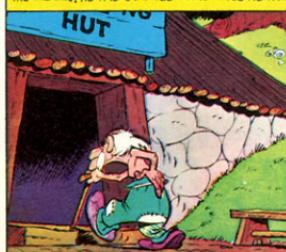
...AND OCCASIONALLY THEY ARE NOT ABOVE SENDING THE ROMAN PATROLS PACKING...



AS FOR CERAMIX, HE HAS BECOME THE MOST COURTEOUS CHIEF IN ALL GAUL. HE WAS PROBABLY THE ORIGINATOR OF THE FAMOUS REPUTATION FOR POLITENESS THAT THE FRENCH ENJOYED... ONCE UPON A TIME...



PSYCHOANALYTIX, OUR GOOD DRUID, HAS MORE OR LESS RECOVERED FROM HIS CONTACT WITH THE MENHIR, HE HAS STARTED PRACTISING AGAIN...



...AND IN ANY EVENT HIS FAME MAKES UP FOR ANY MINOR SIDE EFFECTS



THINGS ARE BACK  
TO NORMAL IN  
OUR FRIENDS'  
VILLAGE...

FRIENDS, WE SHALL  
CELEBRATE OUR VICTORY  
WITH A GREAT FEAST!  
TO YOUR PLACES!

LONG  
LIVE VITALSTATISTIX!  
LONG LIVE THE CHIEF!

I WAS  
WONDERING...

NO!

PERHAPS  
PSYCHOANALYTIX  
WAS RIGHT AFTER  
ALL. ASTERIX...

REALLY?

IF I'M NOT  
CAREFUL I SHALL  
BE PUTTING ON WEIGHT  
... I MUST GO ON  
A DIET...

?

I SHALL EAT JUST  
BISCUITS, WITH PERHAPS  
A LITTLE SOMETHING  
ON THEM...

!

A LITTLE SOMETHING?  
WHAT SORT OF LITTLE  
SOMETHING?

A  
BOAR,  
BY  
TOUTATIS!

HAHAHA HAHAHA HAHAHAHA!



the  
end