

BOOK 9

GOSCINNY AND UDERZO

# Asterix

*and the  
Big Fight*

# Asterix



HOODER GARGAUD

# ASTERIX AND THE BIG FIGHT

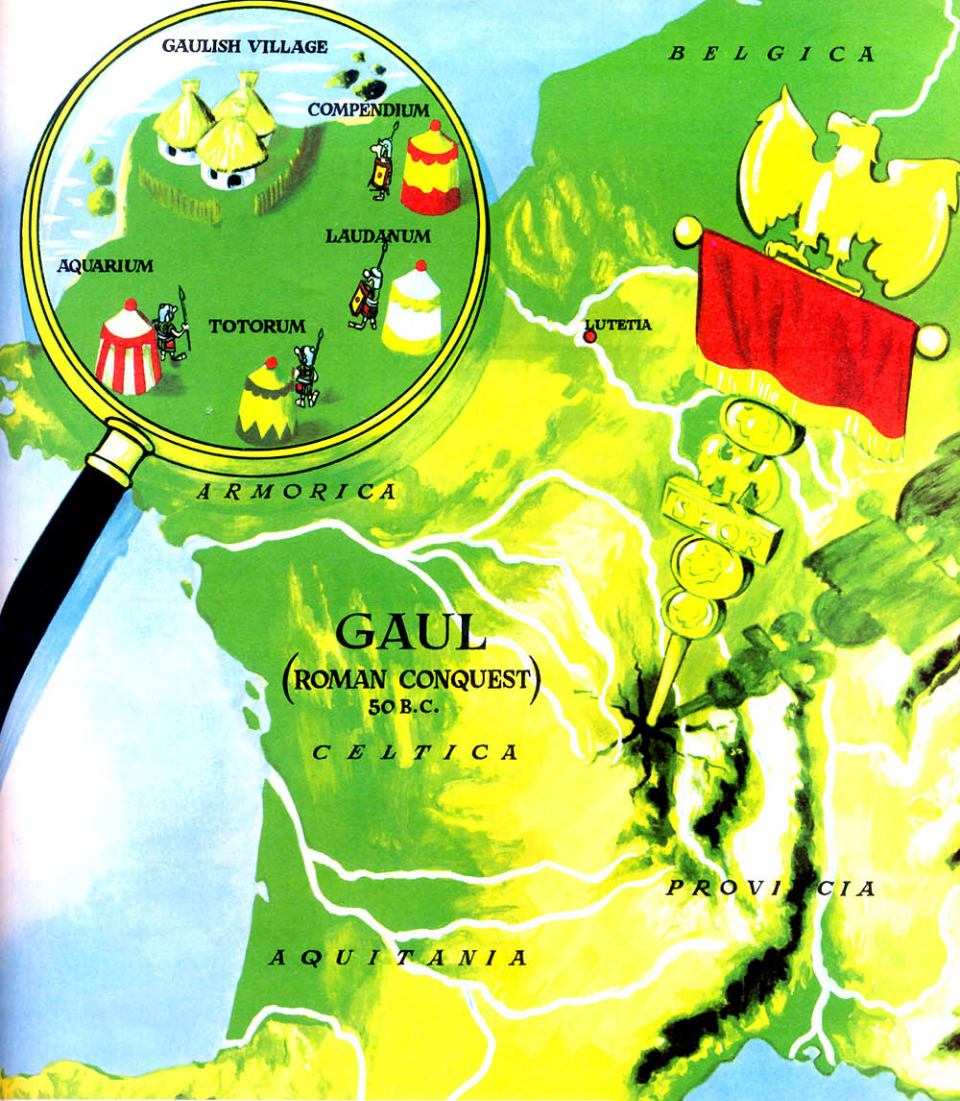
TEXT BY GOSCINNY

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...



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...



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.'



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...



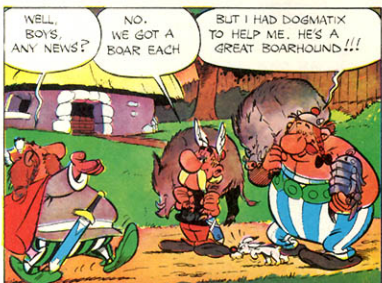
FIRST, THOSE WHO ACCEPTED THE PAX ROMANA AND WERE TRYING TO ADAPT TO THE POWERFUL CIVILISATION OF THE INVADERS...



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...



SCANNED BY SOLOMONGRÜNDIFIX ~ E PLURIBUS HACSА !!!



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

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

BY JUPITER!!!  
WHAT HAPPENED  
TO YOU?



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

AND THEY DID HAVE A DOG WITH THEM...

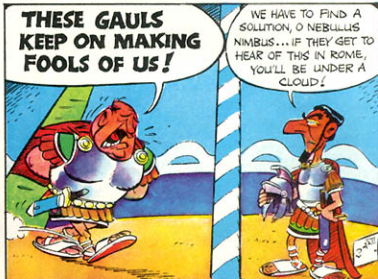
AND TWO BOARDS!

SO THAT MADE FIVE!



THESE GAULS KEEP ON MAKING FOOLS OF US!

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



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

WELL...



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

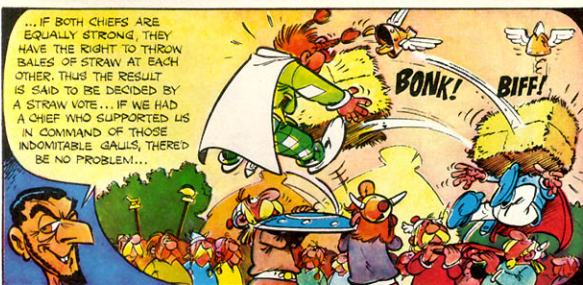


THE BIG FIGHT?

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

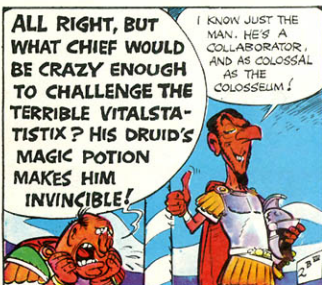


... IF BOTH CHIEFS ARE EQUALLY STRONG, THEY HAVE THE RIGHT TO THROW BALES OF STRAW AT EACH OTHER, THUS THE RESULT IS SAID TO BE DECIDED BY A STRAW VOTE... IF WE HAD A CHIEF WHO SUPPORTED US IN COMMAND OF THOSE INDOMITABLE GAULS, THERE'D BE NO PROBLEM...



ALL RIGHT, BUT WHAT CHIEF WOULD BE CRAZY ENOUGH TO CHALLENGE THE TERRIBLE VITALSTATISTIX? HIS DRUIDS' MAGIC POTION MAKES HIM INVINCIBLE!

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

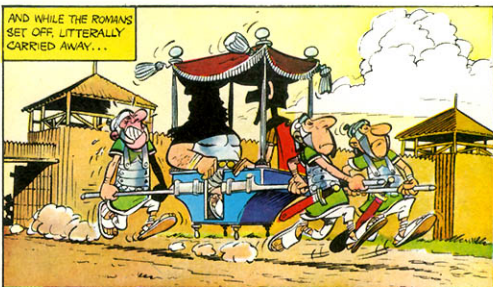


**BY MINERVA! LET'S GO AND SEE THIS CHIEF OF YOURS RIGHT AWAY!**

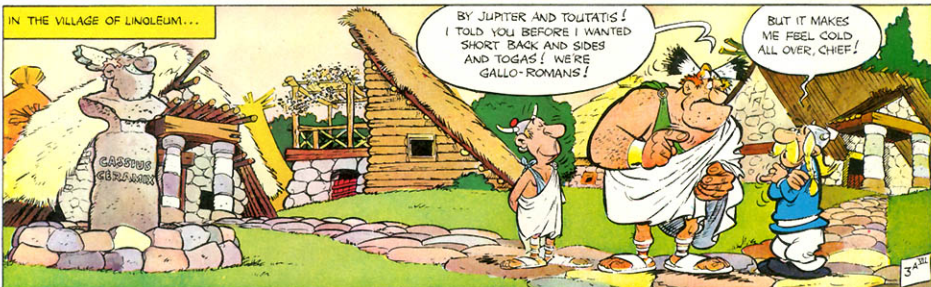
HE LIVES IN THE VILLAGE OF LINOLEUM, AND HIS NAME IS CASSIUS CERAMIX



AND WHILE THE ROMANS SET OFF, LITERALLY 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!

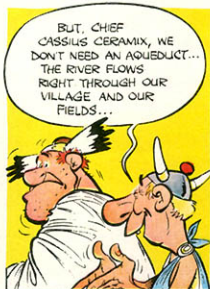
BUT IT MAKES ME FEEL COLD ALL OVER, CHIEF!

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...



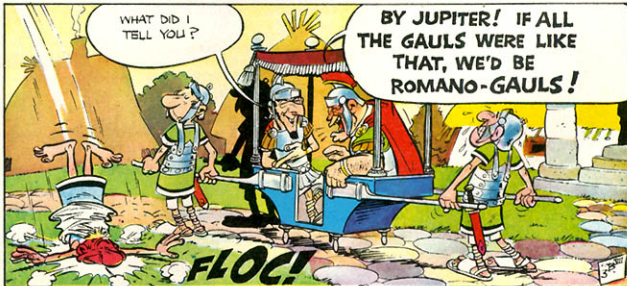
THEN WE'LL DIVERT THE COURSE OF THE RIVER! AQUEDUCTS ARE MORE ROMAN!



AND THAT'S ABOUT ENOUGH ARGUING!



WHAT DID I TELL YOU?

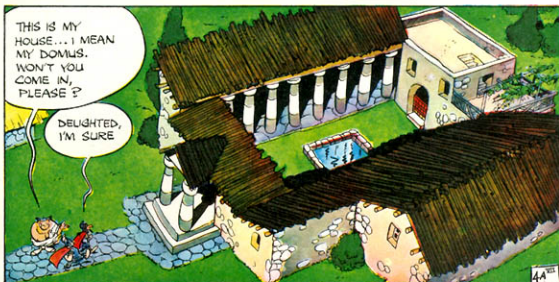


BY JUPITER! IF ALL THE GAULS WERE LIKE THAT, WE'D BE ROMANO-GAULS!

FLOC!



**AVE CAESAR! WELCOME  
TO OUR BELOVED  
INVADERS!**





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

YOU COULD HAVE LEFT YOUR MENHIR IN THE VILLAGE

WHAT, AND HAVE SOME KID PINCH IT?

IN THE CAMP OF TOTORUN...

THE CAMOUFLAGED DETACHMENT IS READY TO RECEIVE YOUR ORDERS, O NEBULLUS NIBBUS!

COMING!

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

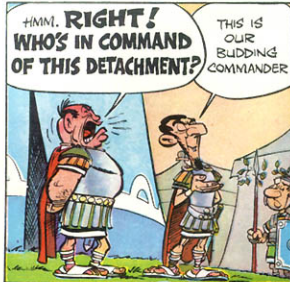
ER... NEBULLUS NIBBUS...

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 CHANCE, 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  
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  
GOPSE AND  
ROBBERS

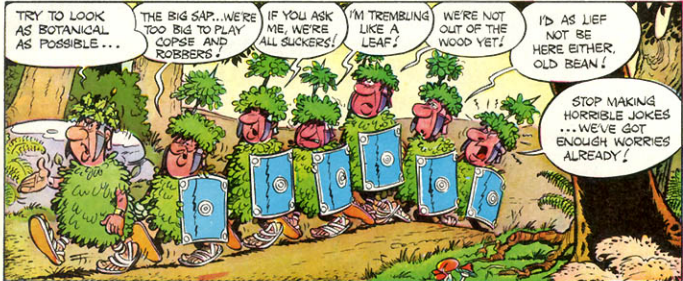
IF YOU ASK  
ME, WE'RE  
ALL SUCKERS!

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...



WHERE ARE  
THEY? WHERE  
ARE THEY?



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

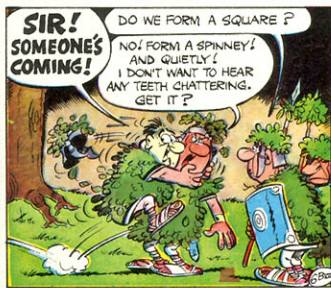


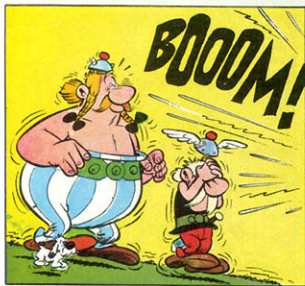
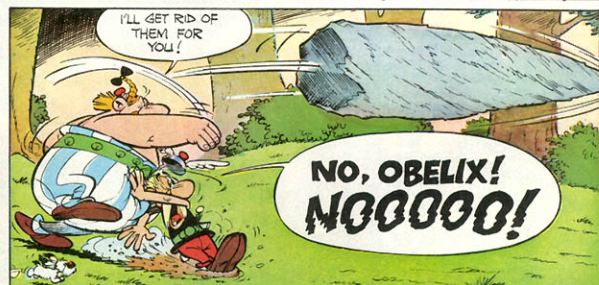
ONE MORE  
TRICK LIKE THAT, YOU  
WEEDS, AND YOU'LL  
BE TURFED OUT  
OF THE ARMY!

SIR!  
SOMEONE'S  
COMING!

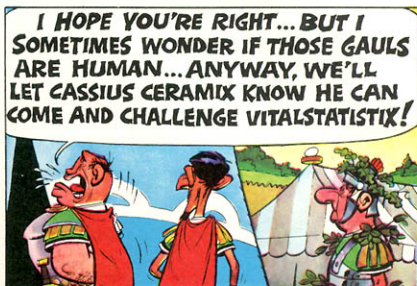
DO WE FORM A SQUARE?

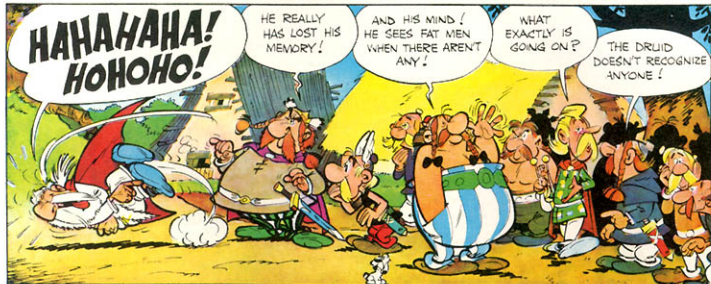
NO! FORM A SPINNEY!  
AND QUIETLY!  
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR  
ANY TEETH CHATTERING.  
GET IT?





WELL, I DID GET RID OF THOSE ROMANS, DIDN'T I?





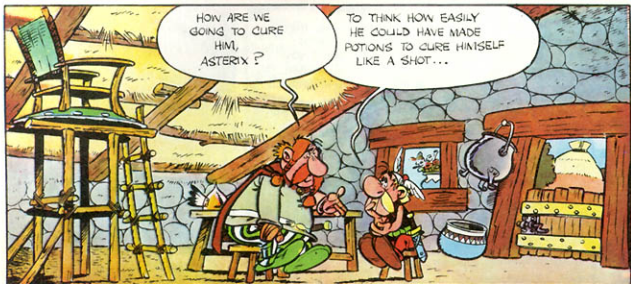
**HA! HA! HA!**  
**HO! HO! HO!**

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!!**



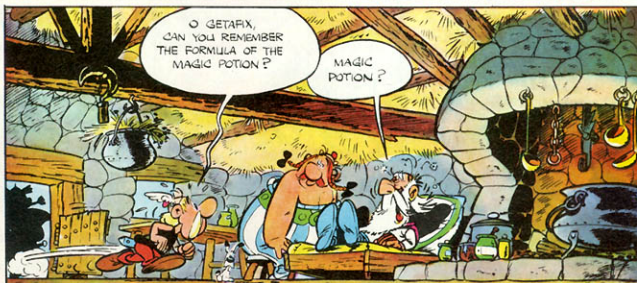
HOW ARE WE  
GOING TO CURE  
HIM,  
ASTERIX?

TO THINK HOW EASILY  
HE COULD HAVE MADE  
POTIONS TO CURE HIMSELF  
LIKE A SHOT...

**THE POTION! THE MAGIC  
POTION THAT GIVES US  
SUPERHUMAN  
STRENGTH!**



LET'S HOPE HE CAN  
REMEMBER THE FORMULA!  
IF NOT, THOSE ROMANS ARE  
GOING TO GET THE BETTER OF US!  
THEY OUTNUMBER US A HUNDRED  
TO ONE, AND THEY'RE BETTER  
EQUIPPED TOO!



O GETAFIX,  
CAN YOU REMEMBER  
THE FORMULA OF THE  
MAGIC POTION?

MAGIC  
POTION?



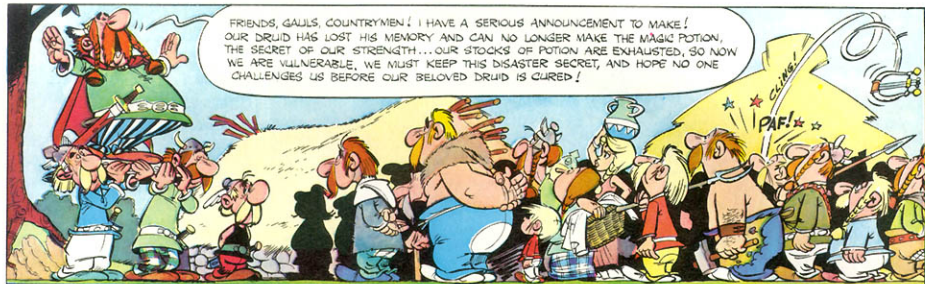
WHAT MAGIC POTION? YOU MUST  
LET ME HAVE A LOOK AT THIS  
MY DEAR SIR... IT SOUNDS  
INTERESTING



WE MUST WARN  
THE WHOLE VILLAGE.  
THIS IS  
SERIOUS!

YOU KNOW...  
THE POTION!  
I FELL INTO IT  
WHEN I WAS A  
BABY!

**HO! HO! HO!**  
I CAN SEE I'M REALLY GOING  
TO ENJOY MYSELF HERE...  
IT'S ALL SO QUANT AND  
FUNNY...  
**YIPPEEE!**



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!

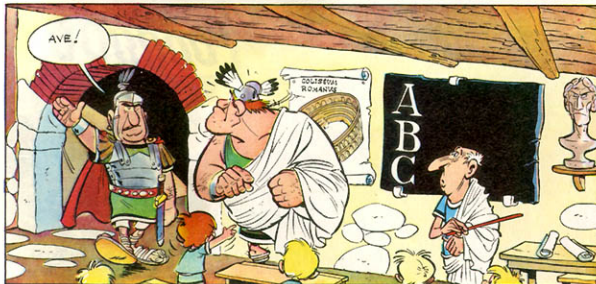


BUT THE SKIES ARE LOWERING... A ROMAN MESSENGER ARRIVES AT THE VILLAGE OF LAGOLSUM...

WHERE DO I FIND YOUR CHIEF CASSIUS CERAVIX?

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

MENSA, MENSA, MENSAM, MENSAM, MENSAM, MENSAM...



AVE!

A B C

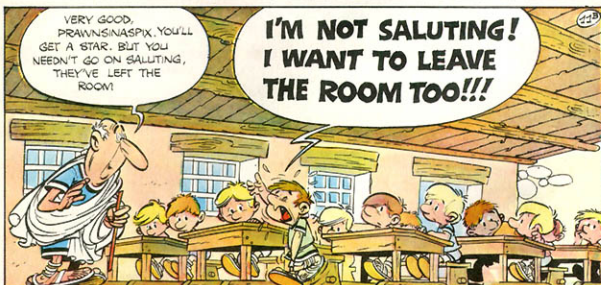


COME ON! COPY LITTLE PRAWNSINASPIX WHO SALUTED OUR ROMAN FRIEND SO NICELY!



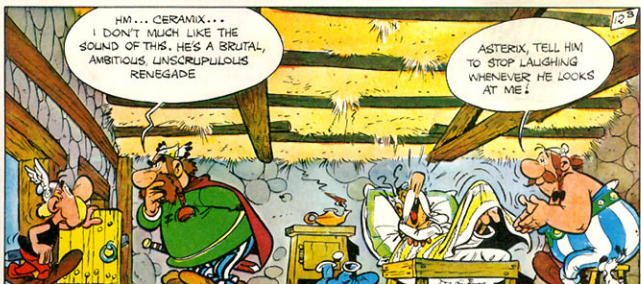
I HAVE AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR YOU FROM CENTURION NEBULLUS NIMBUS, O CASSIUS CERAVIX!

RIGHT, LET'S LEAVE THE ROOM!

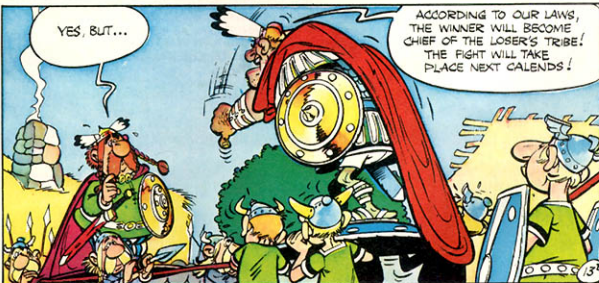
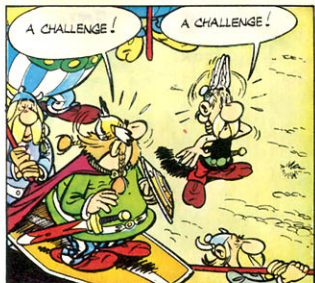
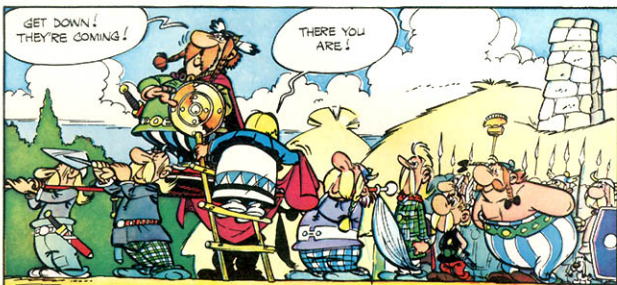


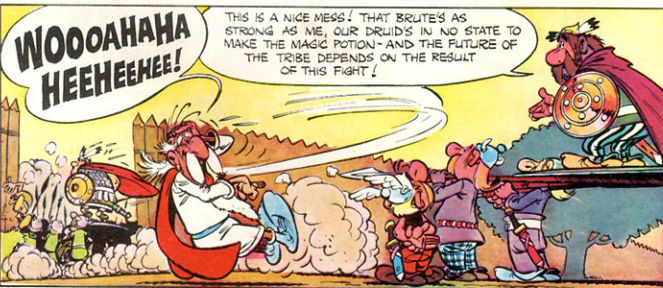
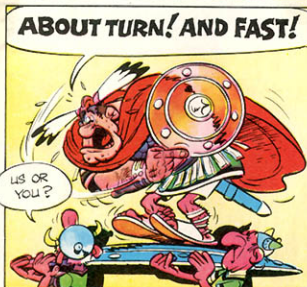
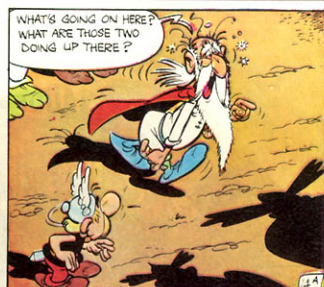
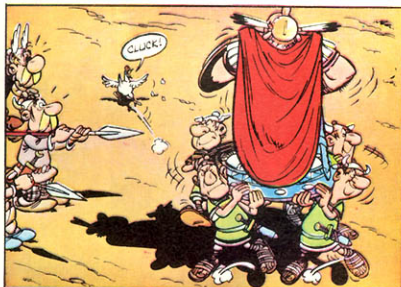
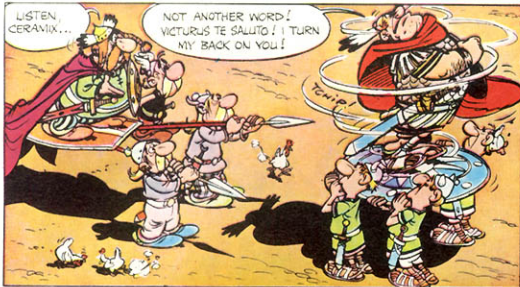
VERY GOOD, PRAWNSINASPIX, YOU'LL GET A STAR, BUT YOU NEEDN'T GO ON SALUTING, THEY'VE LEFT THE ROOM!

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





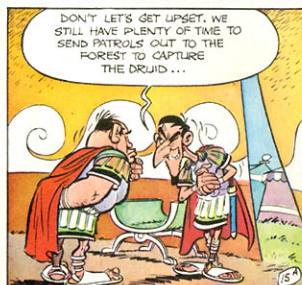




IN THE FORTIFIED  
CAMP OF TOTORUM...

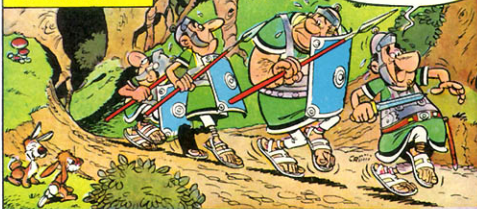
YOU TOLD ME GETAFIX THE DRUID  
HAD BEEN DISPOSED OF! NOT ONLY HAS HE  
NOT BEEN DISPOSED OF, HE'S IN A VERY  
GOOD MOOD! HE CAN'T STOP LAUGHING!

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





COMMANDER BY LEGIONARY INFANTRY-PLUS, 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?

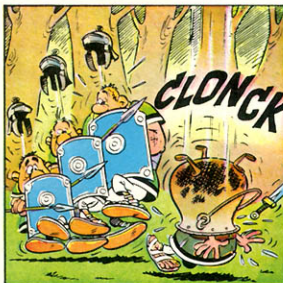
WHAT ARE THEY UP TO? WHAT ON EARTH ARE THEY UP TO?

CLAC  
CLAC  
CLAC!



LOOK! A CAULDRON!

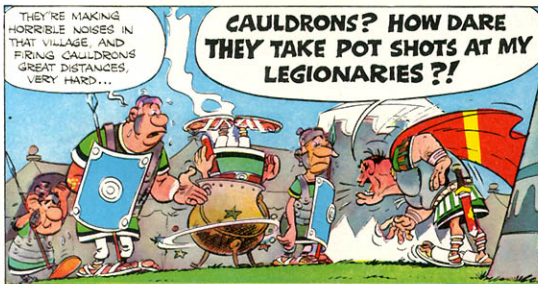
WHERE?



**CLONCK**



BACK TO THE CAMP, QUICK!



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

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



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

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



**THIS IS A PRETTY KETTLE OF FISH!**

SPLATCH!



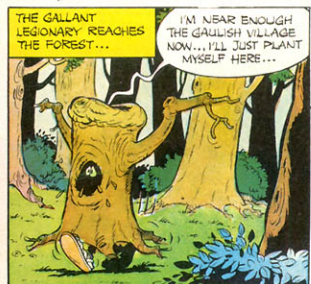
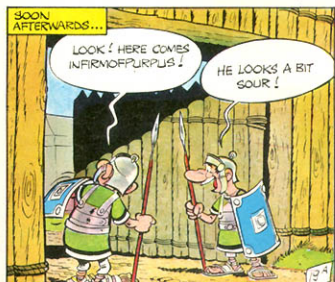
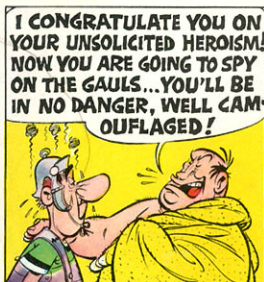
IN THE GAULISH VILLAGE...

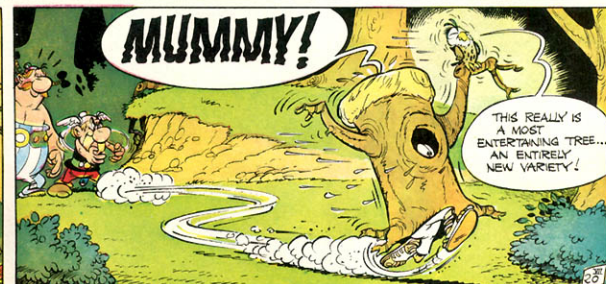
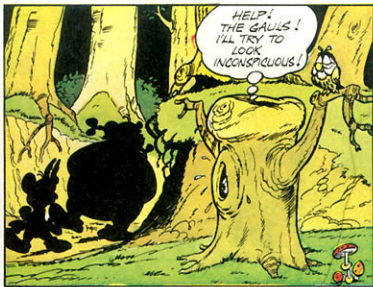
THAT ONE DIDN'T GO OFF BANG!

IF IT DIDN'T GO OFF BANG, PERHAPS HE'S DONE IT?

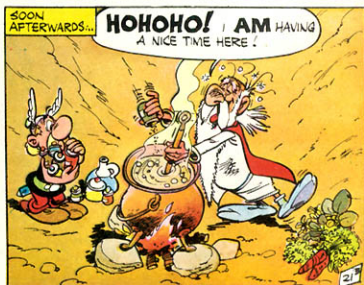
LET'S HAVE A LOOK...











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

GLOUP!  
GLOUP!



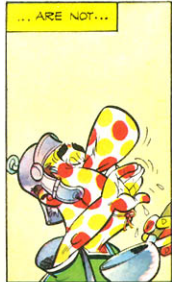
... WITH RESULTS THAT ...



... WHILE  
DECORATIVE ...



... ARE NOT ...



...THE  
RESULTS...



... DESIRED!



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



YIPPEEE!

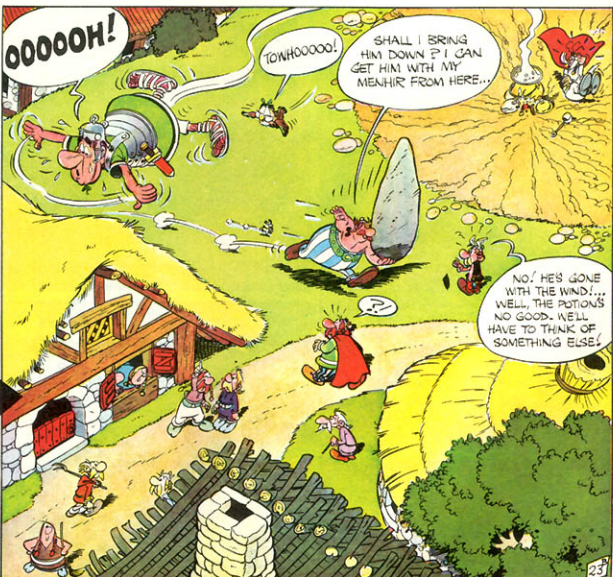


SOON  
AFTERWARDS...

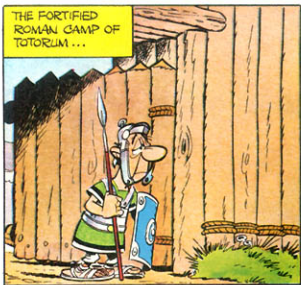
LOOK, ASTERIX,  
HE'S SKY-BLUE...

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

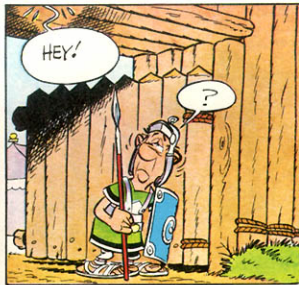




THE FORTIFIED  
ROMAN CAMP OF  
TOTORIUM ...

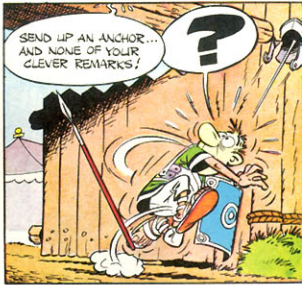


HEY!



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

?



SOON  
AFTERWARDS...

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



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



?!/



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

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



FEATHER-BRAINED,  
MORE LIKE! GET  
HIM DOWN!

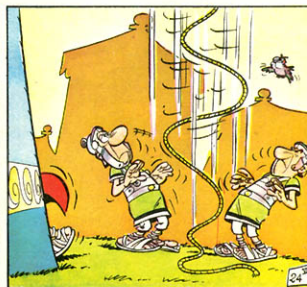


NOW THEY'VE SHOWN  
THEIR TRUE COLOURS!  
I'D SAY THEIR DRUID HAS  
GONE CRAZY - HE'S FORGOTTEN  
HOW TO PREPARE THE  
MAGIC POTION!



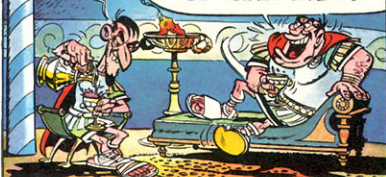
WELL, WELL,  
VERY  
INTERESTING!

YOU CAN  
LET HIM GO  
NOW!



ALL IS WELL! THAT MENHIR  
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!



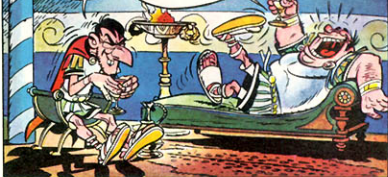
IT'S QUITE  
UNNECESSARY  
TO RISK INJURY... LET  
CASSIUS GERANIK  
DO THE DIRTY WORK  
FOR US. WE'LL  
ATTACK ONLY IF HE  
LOSES.



GNNNEE  
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 UP  
WITH YOU?



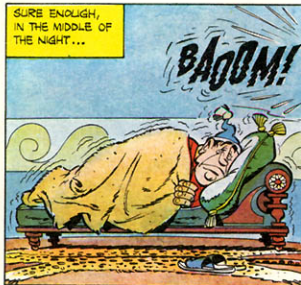
WHAT'S TO BECOME OF ME?  
YOU'RE STARTING TO GET  
ME DOWN... I HOPE!



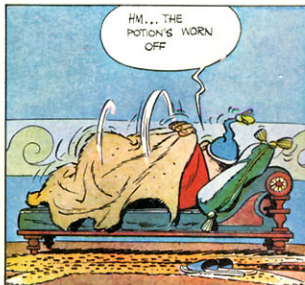
DON'T WORRY! THE EFFECTS OF  
THESE GAULISH POTIONS ARE ONLY  
TEMPORARY! IT WILL SOON WEAR  
OFF. HAVE A GOOD NIGHT!



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



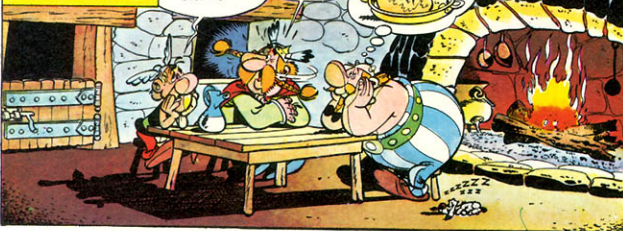
HM... THE  
POTION'S WORN  
OFF



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

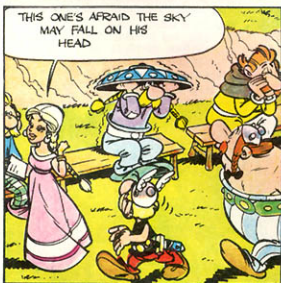
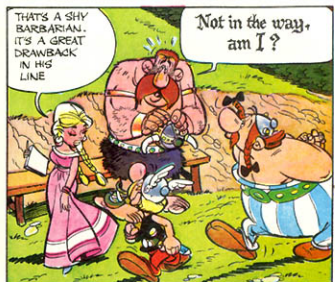
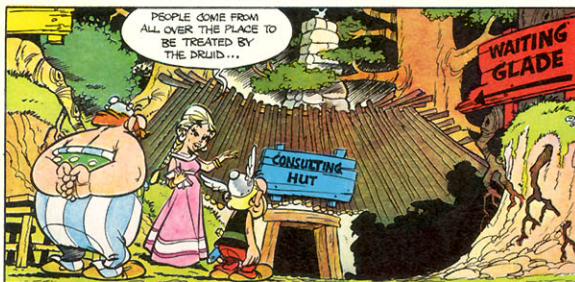
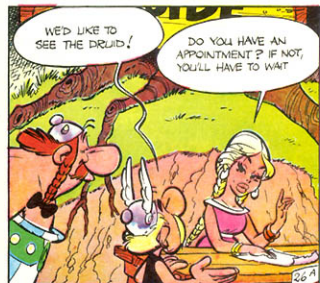
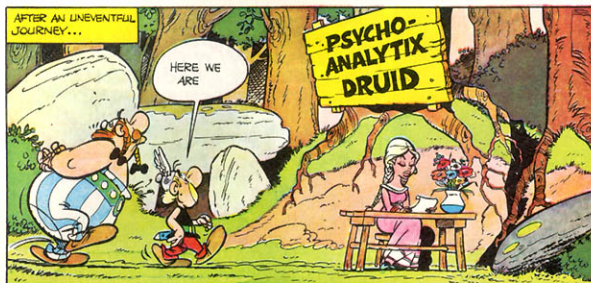
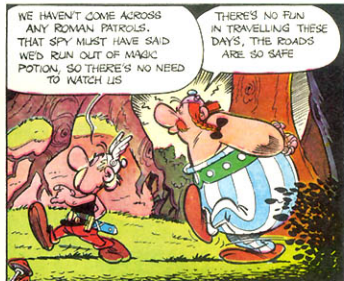
WE NEED  
ANOTHER DRUID  
TO CURE OUR  
DRUID!

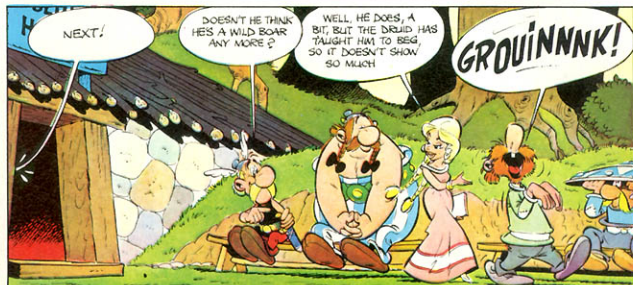
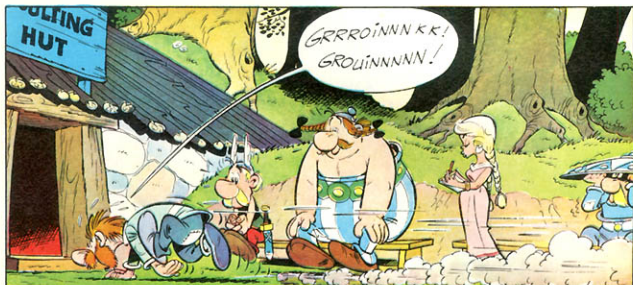
WHAT A GOOD  
IDEA, BY  
TOUTATIS!

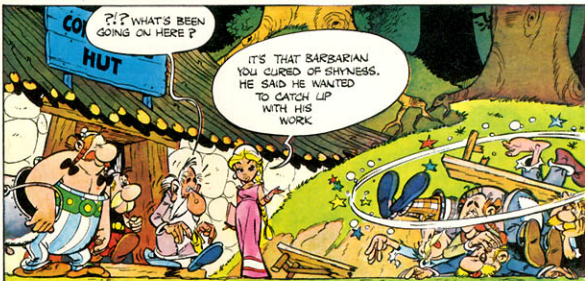
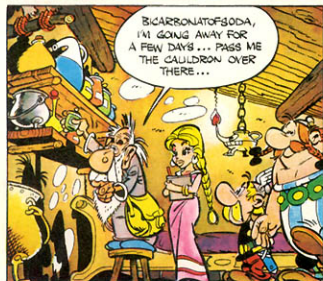
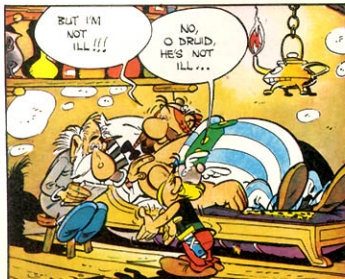
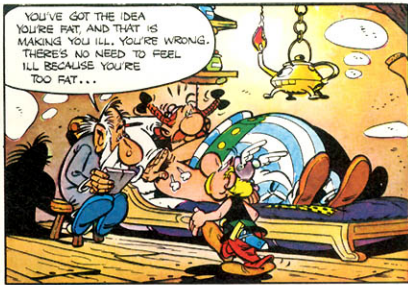
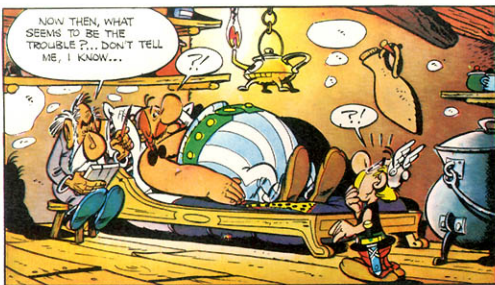


I KNOW A DRUID LIVING  
NEAR HERE. HIS SPECIALITY  
IS CURING THE MENTALLY  
DISTURBED.  
HE'S CALLED  
PSYCHOANALYTIX

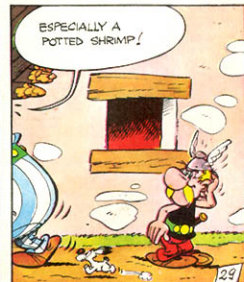
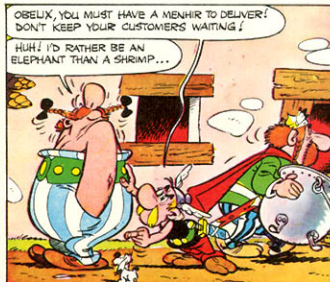
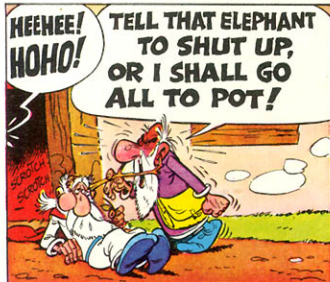
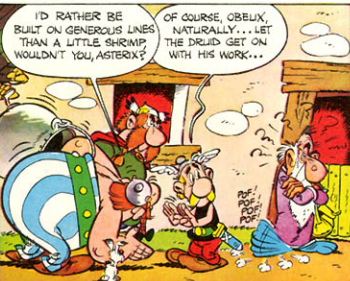
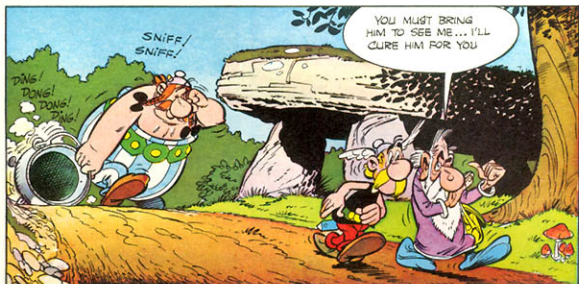
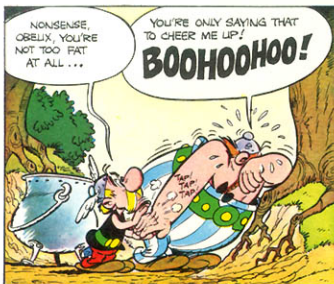














PUT MY CAULDRON ON TO BOIL... IT LOOKS AS THOUGH I'LL HAVE TO MAKE SOME POTIONS



SOON AFTERWARDS...

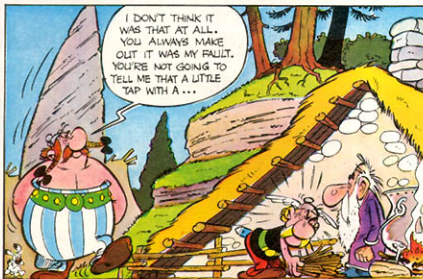
I KNOW SOME VERY CLEVER TRICKS WITH A CAULDRON TOO!

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

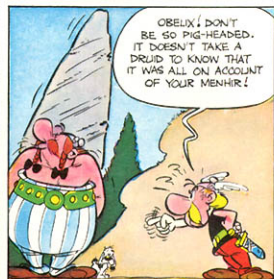


WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM? SOME SORT OF A SHOCK?

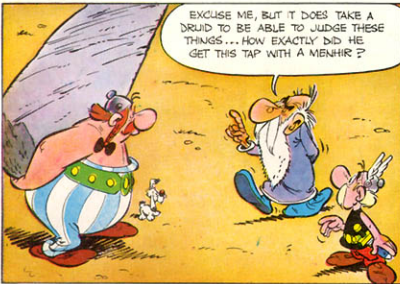
YES, IT WAS A MENHIR GOT HIM DOWN



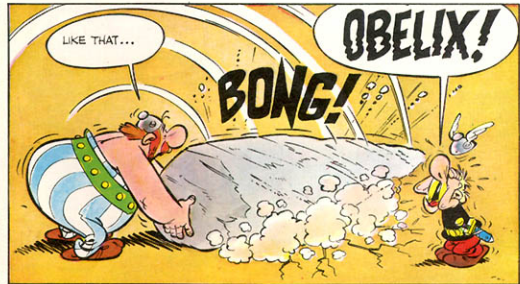
I DON'T THINK IT WAS THAT AT ALL... YOU ALWAYS MAKE OUT IT WAS MY FAULT. YOU'RE NOT GOING TO TELL ME THAT A LITTLE TAP WITH A ...



OBELEX! DON'T BE SO PIG-HEADED. IT DOESN'T TAKE A DRUID TO KNOW THAT IT WAS ALL ON ACCIDENT OF YOUR MENHIR!



EXCUSE ME, BUT IT DOES TAKE A DRUID TO BE ABLE TO JUDGE THESE THINGS... HOW EXACTLY DID HE GET THIS TAP WITH A MENHIR?



LIKE THAT...

**OBELIX!**  
**BONG!**



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

WELL, HE DID ASK...



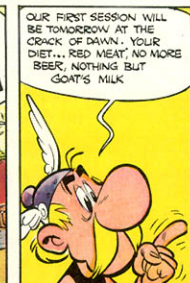
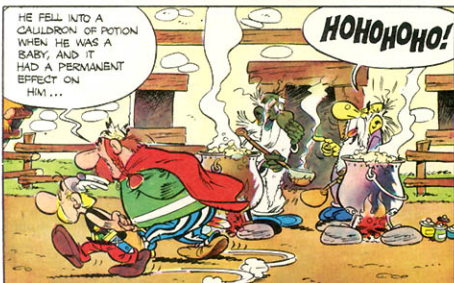
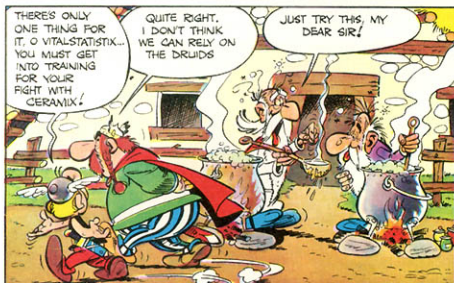
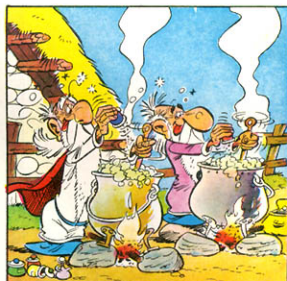
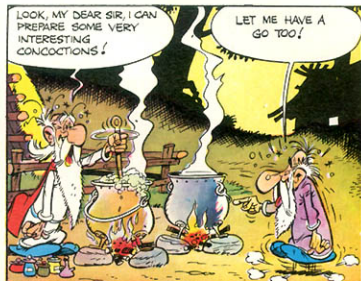
IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE LIKE THAT, I SHANT HELP YOU ANY MORE... SORT IT OUT BY YOURSELVES!



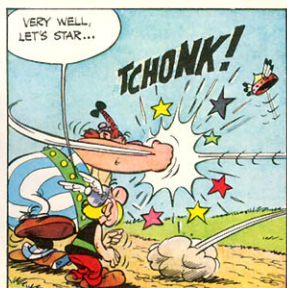
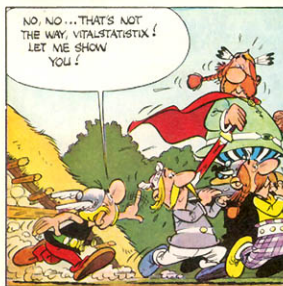
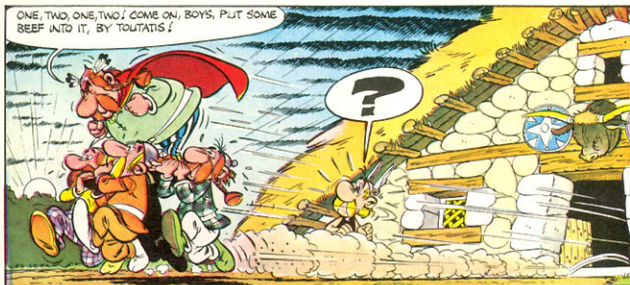
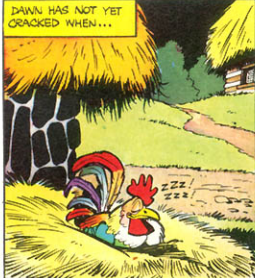
HE'S COMING TO,

HOW ARE YOU, O DRUID?

I BEG YOUR PARDON, MY DEAR SIR?



DAWN HAS NOT YET  
CRACKED WHEN...

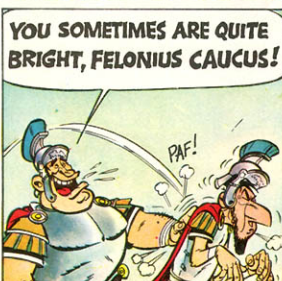
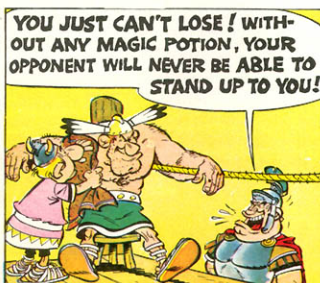


O, CHIEF VITALSTATIST, YOU HAVEN'T LOST YOUR MEMORY, I HOPE?

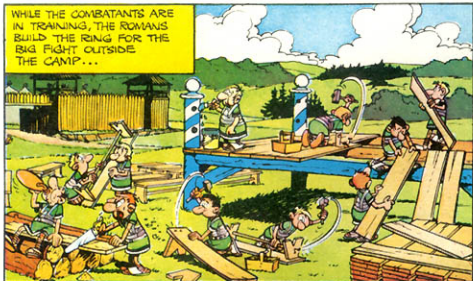
NOT ONLY THAT I NOT LOST MY MEMORY, I'M IN NO DANGER OF FORGETTING THAT PUNCH EITHER!

WHILE VITALSTATIST GOES ON WITH HIS TRAINING, IN THE VILLAGE OF LINGOLEJUM HIS REDOUBTABLE OPPONENT CASSIUS CERAMIX IS TRAINING JUST AS HARD...

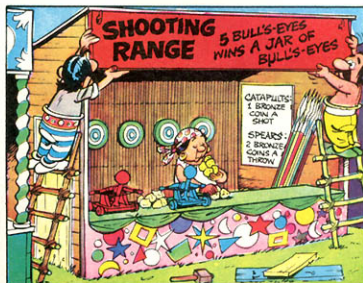
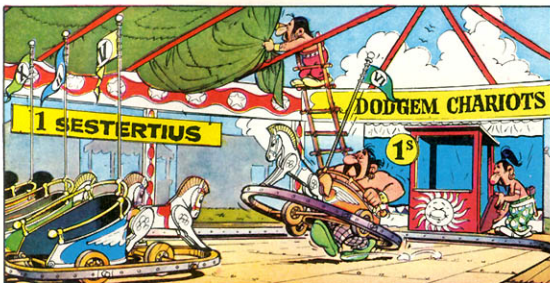
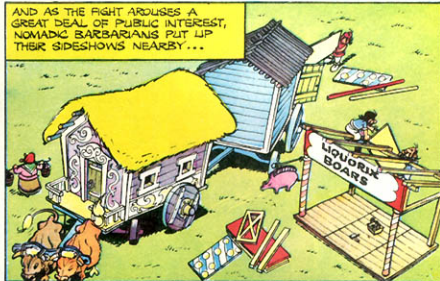
NEXT!



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



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



THE GREAT DAY DAWNS AT LAST, AND A VAST CROWD ASSEMBLES THEIR SHOUTS AND LAUGHTER MINGLING WITH THE SMELL OF BOAR AND CHIPS...

**CHILDREN'S COMIX!  
3 BRONZE COINS THE SLAB!**

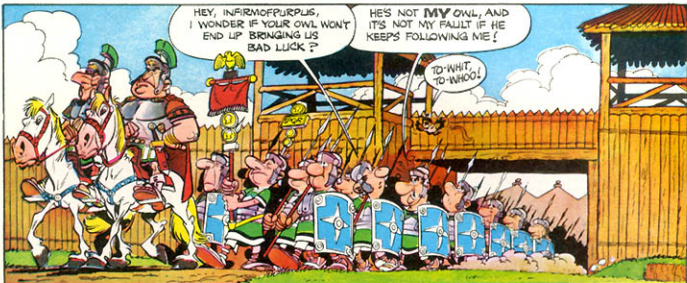
**A GOLD COIN FOR ANYONE GOING ONE ROUND WITH THE MIRMILLO!**

**GET YOUR SOUVENIR HERE!**

**WILL THE PARENTS OF LITTLE KELOLLIK PLEASE COME TO COLLECT HIM AT THE LOST CHILDREN'S TENT?**



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



**GAGLIUS CERAMIX  
ARRIVES AT THE  
RINGSIDE...**



**MEANWHILE...**

**O VITALSTATISTIX,  
IT'S TIME  
TO GO!**

**HEAVE AWAY,  
BOYS!**



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

**LONG LIVE  
THE CHIEF!**



**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!**

**I'VE MIXED A LITTLE  
SOMETHING MYSELF  
WHICH I THINK WILL  
SURPRISE YOU**



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



**LONG LIVE VITALSTATISTIX!  
BRAVO! VITALSTATISTIX,  
BY BELENOS!**



**CASSIUS CERAMIX FOR  
EVER! CASSIUS CERAMIX,  
BY JUPITER!**

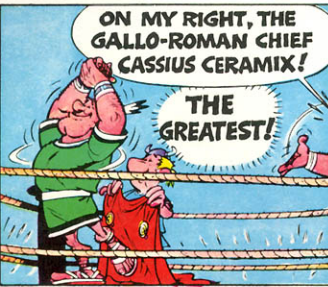


**THIS FIGHT WILL GO ON  
UNTIL ONE OF THEM  
THROWS IN THE TOWEL!  
THE STAKES ARE AS  
FOLLOWS: THE WINNER  
RECEIVES THE HOMAGE  
OF VITAL... OF THE  
LOSER AND HIS TRIBE!**



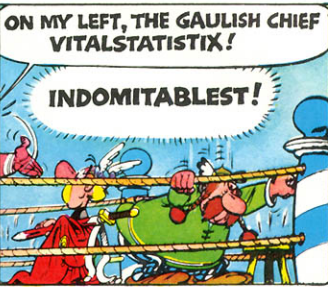
**ON MY RIGHT, THE  
GALLO-ROMAN CHIEF  
CASSIUS CERAMIX!**

**THE  
GREATEST!**



**ON MY LEFT, THE GAULISH CHIEF  
VITALSTATISTIX!**

**INDOMITABLEST!**



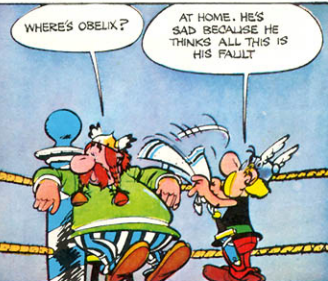
**THIS IS AN ALL-IN CONTEST.  
TO YOUR CORNERS, AND WHEN  
YOU HEAR THE BUCINA,  
COME OUT FIGHTING!  
AND MAY CASSIUS CER... MAY  
THE BEST MAN WIN!**

**ALEA JACTA EST!**

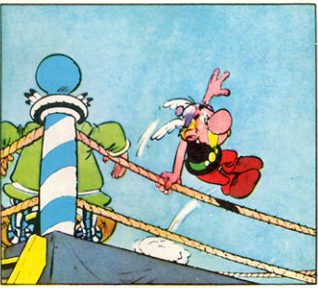


WHERE'S OBELIX?

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!**

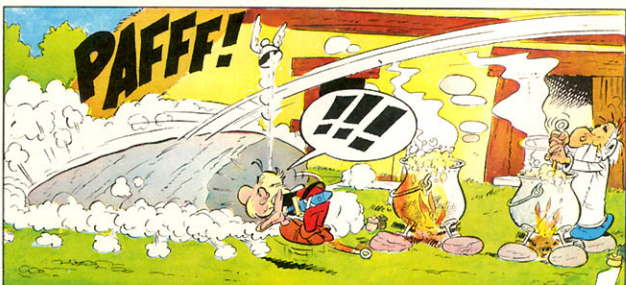
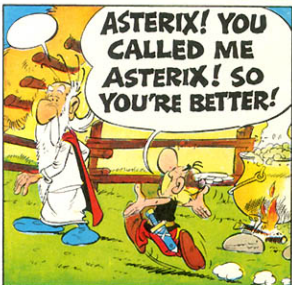
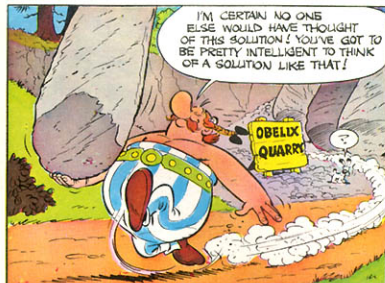
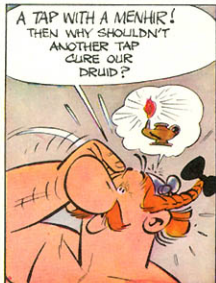
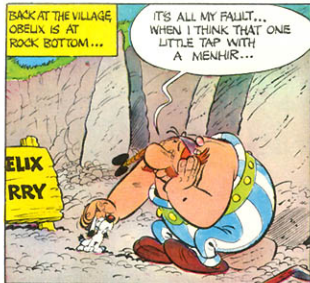


**AND SO THE  
BIG FIGHT  
BEGINS!**

**PAAA  
!PRA**

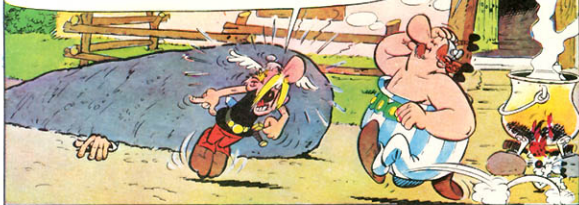






**OBELIX!... DID YOU THROW THIS MENHIR?**

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

WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING BETWEEN THOSE TWO KNOCKS?

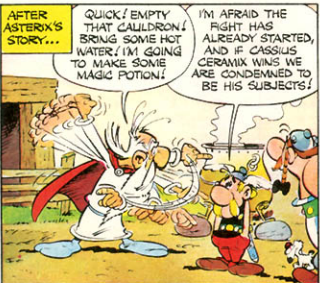
LET ME EXPLAIN, GETAFIX...



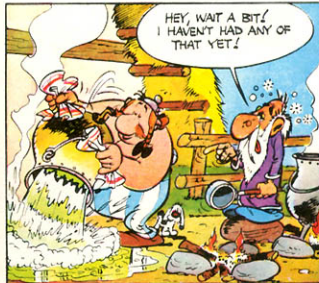
AFTER ASTERIX'S STORY...

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

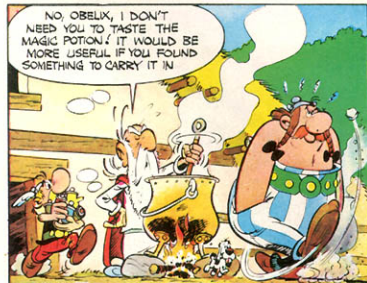
I'M AFRAID THE RIGHT HAS ALREADY STARTED, AND IF CASSIUS GERANIX WINS WE ARE CONDEMNED TO BE HIS SUBJECTS!



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

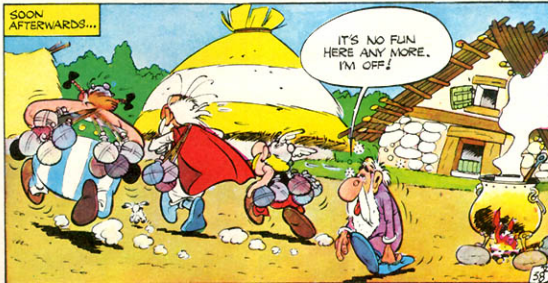


NO, OBELIX, I DON'T NEED YOU TO TASTE THE MAGIC POTION! IT WOULD BE MORE USEFUL IF YOU FOUND SOMETHING TO CARRY IT IN



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, OBELEX? 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...

NO! YOU FELL IN IT WHEN YOU WERE A BABY!

CHIEF VITALSTATISTIX!

YES? WHAT IS IT?

GETAFIX IS CURED- WE'RE FIGHTING FIT NOW!

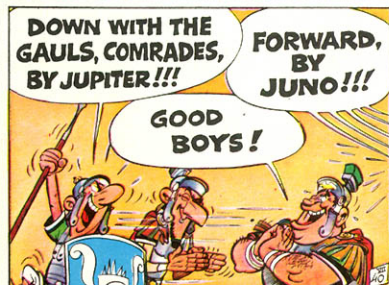
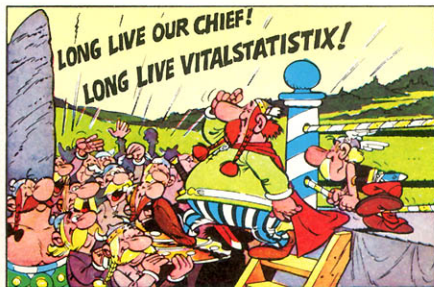
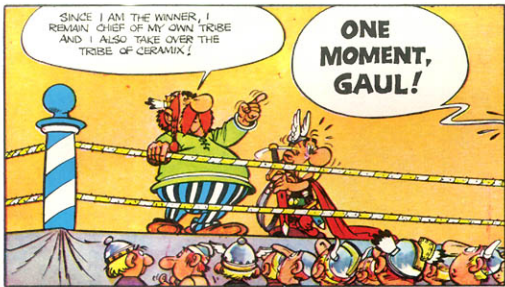
**AHA!** THAT BIT OF NEWS REDOUBLES MY STRENGTH

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

**TCHAC!**

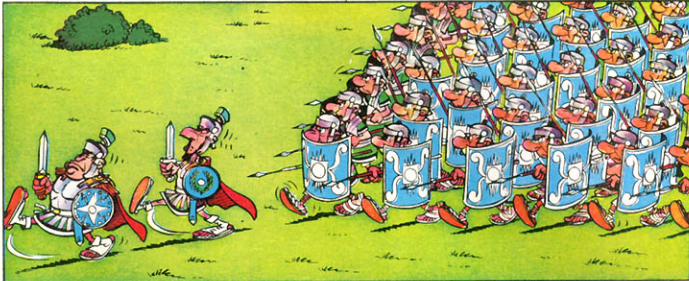
**I'M THE MOST BEAUTIFUL! I'M THE GREATEST! I'M THE CHAMPION!**

**SPLATCH!**



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

**FORM A CUNEUS!**



MEANWHILE, THE GALLS ARE WAITING...



SUDDENLY...

I CAN SEE ONE OVER THERE LAUGHING!

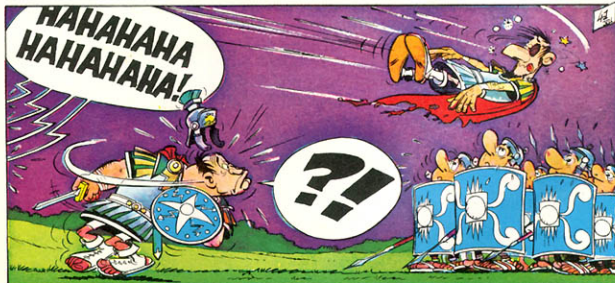
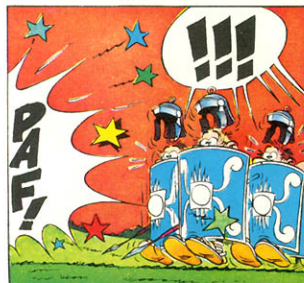
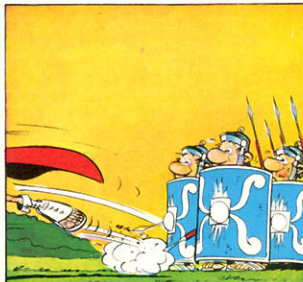


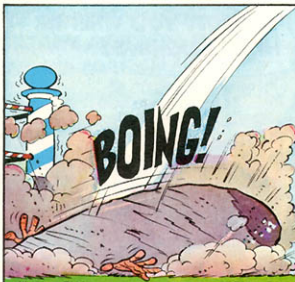
HE'S NOT LAUGHING!

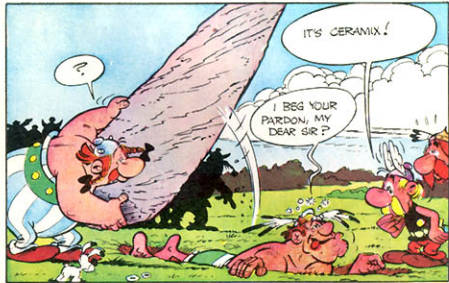
I TELL YOU HE IS!



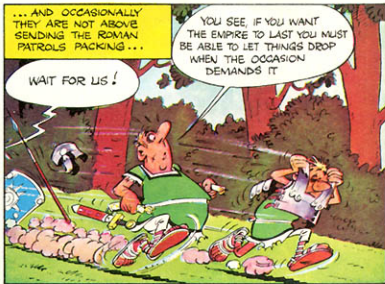
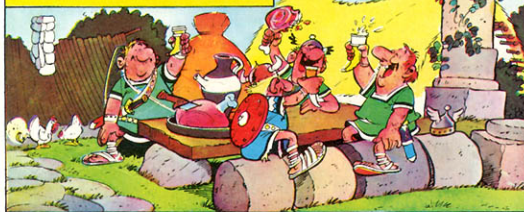
I'LL SHOW YOU WHETHER HE'S LAUGHING!







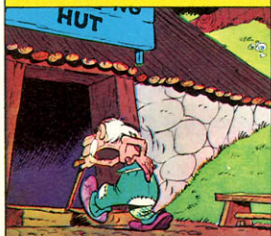
LIFE HAS CHANGED IN THE GALLO-ROMAN VILLAGE OF LANGOUEJAN. THE INHABITANTS HAVE RETURNED TO THEIR TRADITIONAL GAULLISH WAYS, THEY LIKE THEIR FOOD AND DRINK, A GOOD FIGHT AND A BIT OF FUN...



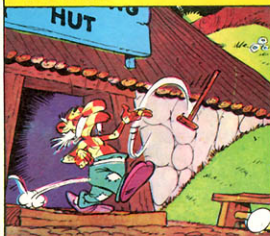
AS FOR CERAMIX, HE HAS BECOME THE MOST COURTEOUS CHIEF IN ALL GAULL. HE WAS PROBABLY THE ORIGINATOR OF THE FAMOUS REPUTATION FOR POLITENESS THAT THE FRENCH ENJOYED... ONCE UPON A TIME...



PSYCHOANALYTIK, 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 PSYCHANALYTX WAS RIGHT AFTER ALL, ASTERIX...

REALLY?

