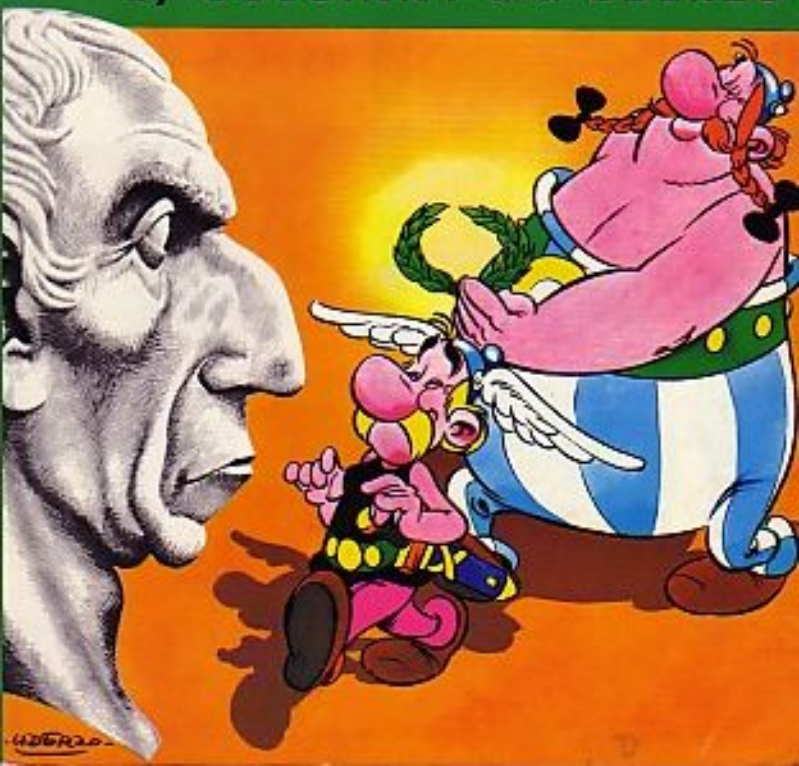


# Asterix and the laurel wreath

by GOSCINNY and UDERZO



AN ASTERIX  
ADVENTURE

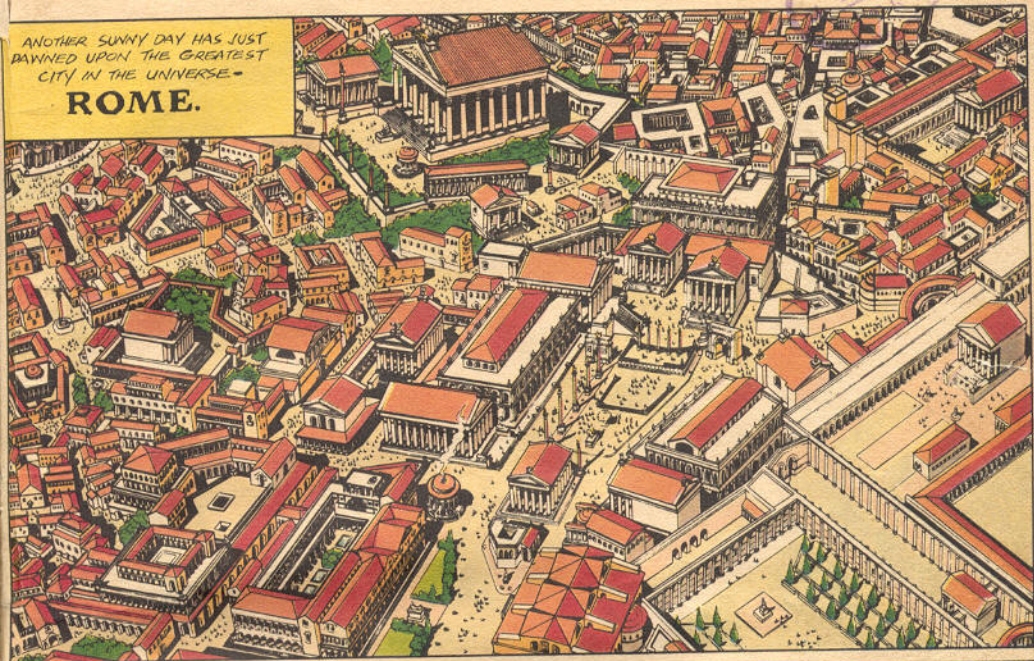
# Asterix

and the  
*Laurel Wreath*

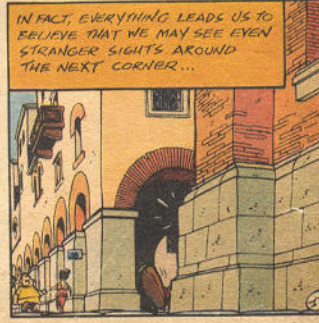


ANOTHER SUNNY DAY HAS JUST  
 BANNED UPON THE GREATEST  
 CITY IN THE UNIVERSE-

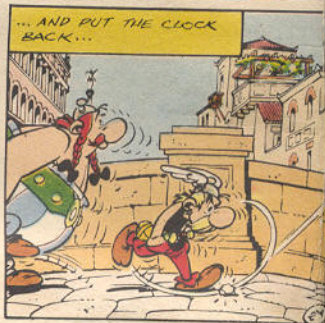
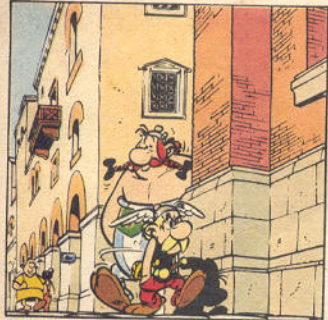
# ROME.



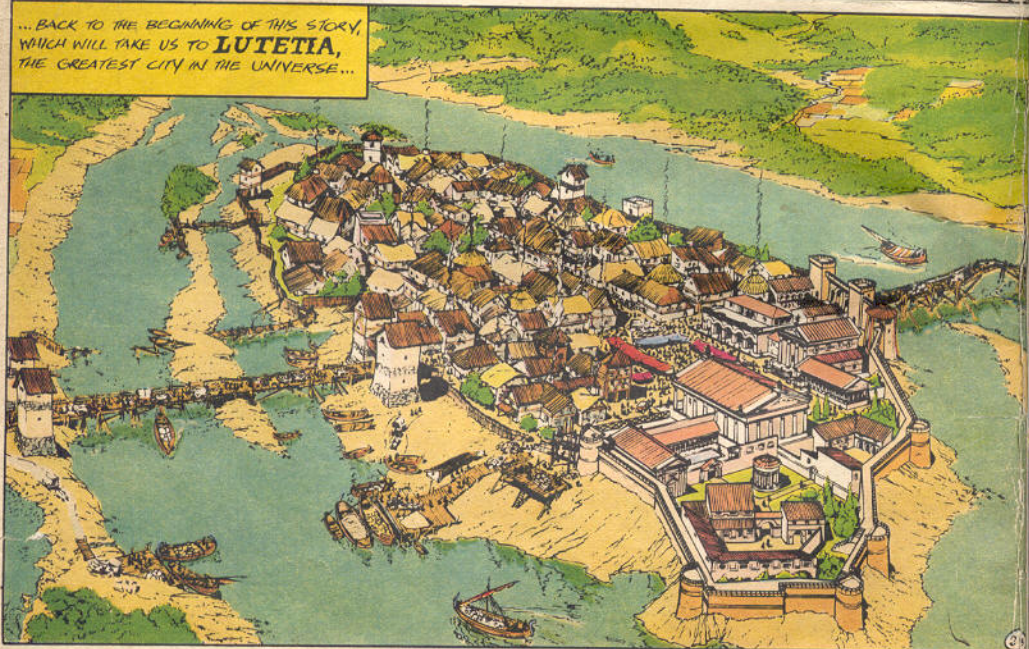
ALTHOUGH, BY CAESAR'S DECREE, TRAFFIC IS NOT ALLOWED ON THE  
 STREETS IN THE DAYTIME, THE CITY IS INCREDIBLY NOISY, CROWDED  
 WITH SHOPKEEPERS AND STREETSELLERS CRYING THEIR WARES...  
 FRUCTUARIII, PEPONARIII, OLITORES, PISCATORRES, VINARIII,  
 SILIGINARIII, PASTILLARIII...



IN FACT, EVERYTHING LEADS US TO  
 BELIEVE THAT WE MAY SEE EVEN  
 STRANGER SIGHTS AROUND  
 THE NEXT CORNER...



... BACK TO THE BEGINNING OF THIS STORY, WHICH WILL TAKE US TO **LUTETIA**, THE GREATEST CITY IN THE UNIVERSE...



IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT TRAFFIC IS FORBIDDEN, THE STREETS OF LUTETIA ARE NOISY, NOISY BUT CHEERFUL, THANKS TO THE INSPIRED REPARTÉE SO TYPICAL OF THE LUTETIAN SENSE OF HUMOUR...



I'VE GOT A JOB TO DO. I HAVE!

FOOL!

IDIOT!

YOUNG HOOLIGAN!

HALF-WIT!

GO ON, YOU CAN GET THROUGH!

No, I CAN'T!

I'M TELLING YOU YOU CAN!

MORON!

DO YOU REALLY THINK SO?

THERE, WHAT DID I TELL YOU?

LET US TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT THIS LITTLE GROUP OF VISITORS UP FROM THE COUNTRY...

LOOK HERE, IMPEDIMENTA, COMING TO LUTETIA TO DO YOUR SHOPPING IS ONE THING, BUT GOING TO SEE HOMEOPATHIX IS ANOTHER! DO WE REALLY HAVE TO?

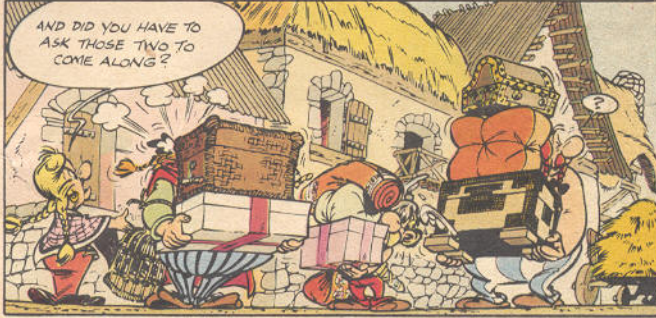
WELL, I CAN HARDLY VISIT LUTETIA WITHOUT CALLING ON MY BROTHER, CAN I? ANYWAY, HE'S INVITED US TO DINNER.

YOU KNOW VERY WELL HOMEOPATHIX AND I DON'T GET ON!

OH, OF COURSE WHEN IT'S A MEMBER OF MY FAMILY...



HOMEOPATHIX HAS GOT TO THE TOP, HE HAS! HIS WIFE DOESN'T LIVE IN A VILLAGE OF MADMEN, SURROUNDED BY ROMANS.



AND DID YOU HAVE TO ASK THOSE TWO TO COME ALONG?

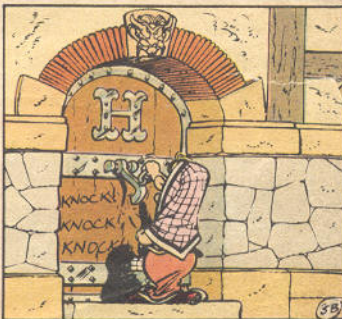


I MAY NOT HAVE GOT TO THE TOP BUT I AM A CHIEF! AND A CHIEF NEEDS HIS ESCORT... ASTERIX AND OBLIX ARE MY BEST MEN! MY GUARD OF HONOUR!



WELL, I HOPE YOUR GUARD OF HONOUR KNOWS HOW TO BEHAVE ITSELF THAT'S ALL, HERE WE ARE!

IT'S A PLEASURE TO BE HERE WITH YOU AND YOUR GUARD OF HONOUR. I'M SURE YOU'LL ENJOY YOUR VISIT TO LUTETIA. I'M SURE YOU'LL ENJOY YOUR VISIT TO LUTETIA. I'M SURE YOU'LL ENJOY YOUR VISIT TO LUTETIA.



KNOCK! KNOCK! KNOCK!

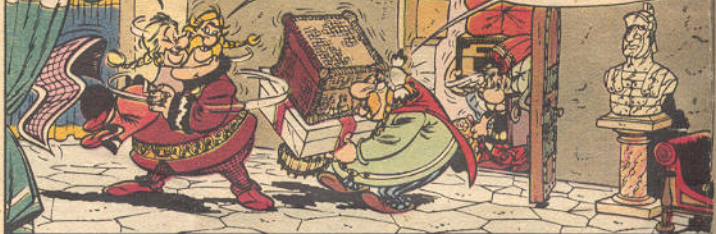
# LITTLE PEDIMENTA!



HOMEOPATHIKINS!

TAPIOCA! TAPIOCA! IMPEDIMENTA AND WHATSIS NAME HAVE ARRIVED!

WHAT'SNAME? WHAT DO YOU MEAN, WHATSISNAME?



I'VE BROUGHT YOU ONE OF OUR SEASIDE SHELLS... VITALSTATIXX WANTED TO BRING YOU A MENHIR, THE SAME AS USUAL.



BUT MY DEAR CHAP, WHERE AM I GOING TO PUT THESE MENHIRS OF YOURS?

YOU REALLY WANT ME TO TELL YOU?

## VITALSTATIXX



OH, HOW LOVELY IT IS HERE!



YES, I'VE REDECORATED THE WHOLE PLACE. I WAS GETTING TIRED OF COUNTRY STUFF... TAPIOCA, LET'S HAVE A DRINK.

TRY SOME OF THE 55 B.C. FROM OUR OWN VINEYARD. IT'S A MODEST, UNPRETENTIOUS LITTLE WINE, BUT I HOPE YOU LIKE IT.



HOW'S BUSINESS, HOMEOPATHIX? STILL GOOD?

EXCELLENT! I'M ABOUT TO OPEN BRANCHES AT LUZDUNUM AND MASSILIA...



HOW FASCINATING! AND WILL YOU BE DOING MUCH TRAVELING?

NOT IF I CAN HELP IT! WHEN A MAN IS TIRED OF LUTETIA, HE IS TIRED OF LIFE. THE REST OF GAUL IS ONLY FIT FOR BOARS.

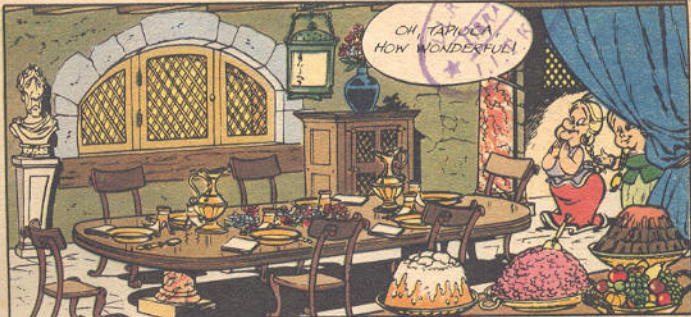


LET'S HAVE SOME MORE OF THE 55 B.C., OBELIX. AT LEAST THAT'S MODEST AND UNPRETENTIOUS.





CENA IS SERVED!



OH, TAPIUCA, HOW WONDERFUL!



OF COURSE, IT MUST BE A BIT OF A CHANGE FROM THE STUFF YOU GET TO EAT AT HOME!



AND WHAT'S WRONG WITH WHAT WE GET TO EAT AT HOME?



NOTHING, EXCEPT I DON'T OFTEN HAVE BEAVERS' TAILS IN STRAWBERRY SAUCE AT HOME!

HEY, OBELEX! PASS THE WINE, WILL YOU?



NOW, WHAT'S YOUR NAME, HOW ABOUT SOME COW'S HOOF MOULD? I BET YOU'VE NEVER HAD ANYTHING LIKE THIS...



YOU DON'T IMPRESS ME WITH YOUR COW'S HOOF MOULD! YOU'RE JUST MAKING PIGS OF YOURSELVES!

WELL, AT LEAST I CAN BRING HOME THE BACON!!

**HOMEOPATHIX!**

VITALSTATISTIX, DON'T BE SUCH A BOOR!



DID MADAM CALL?



YES, MORE WINE, PLEASE..



WELL, I MAY NOT HAVE YOUR MONEY, BUT I DO HAVE HONOUR AND GLORY INSTEAD!

AND DOES HONOUR AND GLORY PROVIDE YOU WITH COW'S HOOF MOULD, DEAR BROTHER-IN-LAW?

HONOUR AND GLORY IS WORTH A LOT MORE THAN FOW'S COOF... I MEAN HOW'S MOOF... I MEAN ALL THIS ROT!

AHA! A STEN... OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD... SEASONED WITH...

AMUSING, EH? HIC! ALL RIGHT THEN, YOU WAIT AND SEE! I'M SENDING MY MEN TO ROME TO BRING ME CAESAR'S LAUREL WREATH, TO SEASON THE STEN I SHALL GIVE YOU WHEN YOU VISIT MY VILLAGE!

COME TO MY ARMS, OBELIX!

YOU COME TO MY VILLAGE, YOU AND SEMOLINA... TAPIOCA! I'LL GIVE YOU A MEAL. AND WHAT A MEAL! ONE YOUR MONEY COULD NEVER BUY! HIC!

SEASONED WITH CAESAR'S LAUREL WREATH! HIC!

ZIGACKLY! WHATSISNAME ISH PERFECTLY RIGHT! HIC!

NO! SINCE THIS BIGHEADED WARRIOR OF YOURS IS SO CLEVER, I'LL ACCEPT HIS INVITATION!

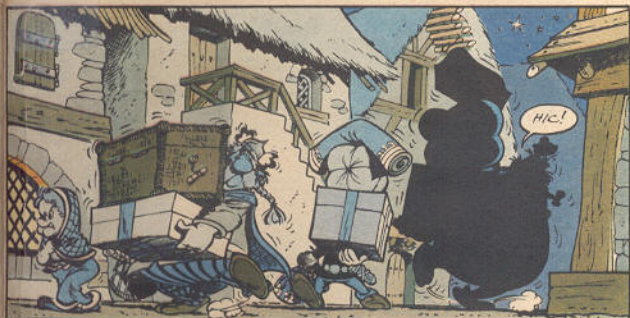
AND WHAT EXACTLY WILL THIS GOURMET MEAL CONSIST OF?

TAKE NO NOTICE, HE'S HAD A DROP TOO MUCH. THAT'S ALL RIGHT, IMPEDIMENTA, HE'S VERY AMUSING.

LET GO OF ME, AUSTERIX! WE'RE GOING TO ROME TO BRING BACK CHAESHAR'S LAUREL WREATH! ZIGACKLY!

BUT I HAVE HIS WORD OF HONOUR THAT IT REALLY WILL BE CAESAR'S LAUREL WREATH IN THE STEW, DON'T I! THASH PERFECTLY RIGHT! IMPEDIMENTA, DARLING... D-DID YOU SEE ANYTHING NICE IN LUTETIA?





BOOHOOOOO! I'VE NEVER BEEN SO HUMILIATED AND THOSE DRUNKARDS JUST SAY ANY OLD THING THAT COMES INTO THEIR MINDS

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, ANY OLD THING? HE SHALL HAVE A STEW SEASONED WITH CAESAR'S LAUREL WE...



IMPEDIMENTA IS QUITE RIGHT. IT WAS A RIDICULOUS THING TO...



THERE! YOU SEE? EVEN YOUR BEST MEN THINK YOU'RE A GREAT FOOL OF A BOORISH OLD...

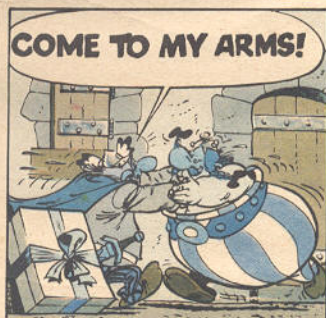
OH, I NEVER SAID I THOUGHT...



ALL RIGHT THEN, IF YOU DIDN'T, YOU CAN SET OFF FOR ROME STRAIGHT AWAY AND BRING ME BACK CAESAR'S LAUREL WREATH!



ZIGACKLY!



COME TO MY ARMS!



DO YOU KNOW WHAT TIME IT IS? TAKE YOUR GIRL FRIEND SOMEWHERE ELSE, YOU DECADENT LOT!



AND NOW THAT WE KNOW HOW AND WHY ASTERIX AND OBELIX LANDED UP IN ROME, LET US GO ON WITH OUR STORY...

IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT! AND ALL I'VE GOT IS A GOURD OF MAGIC POTION THAT GETAFIX THE DRUID GAVE ME... IT'S NOT MUCH, ON THIS KIND OF EXPEDITION!

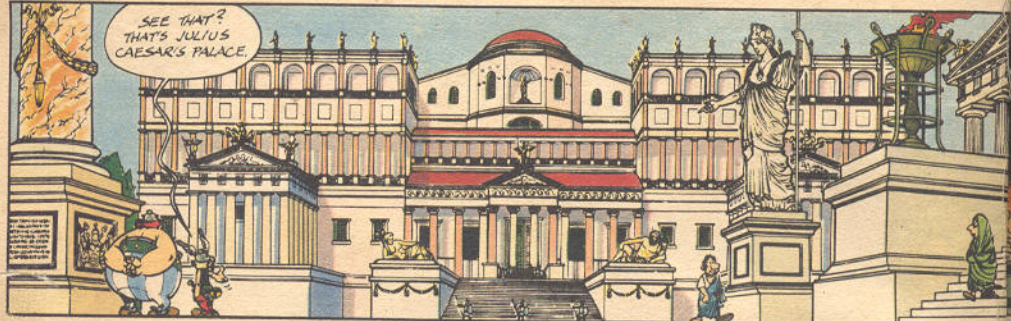


YOU'RE RIGHT, I DID HAVE A DROP TOO MUCH TO DRINK... STILL, IT WON'T BE ALL THAT DIFFICULT. WE MARCH INTO CAESAR'S PALACE, WE PICK UP THE LAUREL WREATH, AND WE GO BACK HOME. SIMPLE, REALLY.



OH, PERFECT!

SEE THAT?  
THAT'S JULIUS  
CAESAR'S PALACE.

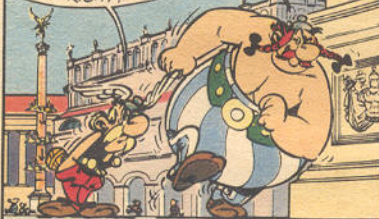


SO WE JUST MASSACRE THE  
GUARD, AND ONCE INSIDE  
THE PALACE WE ASK OUR  
WAY TO CAESAR'S LAUREL  
WREATH, WHICH WE NEED  
TO SEASON A STEW...

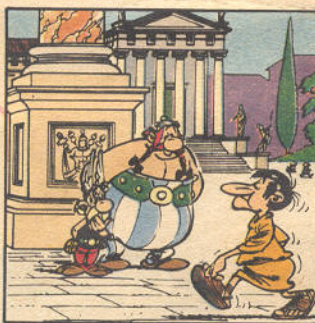


...AND HAVING GOT  
OUR HANDS ON THE  
LAUREL WREATH WE  
SIMPLY BASH OUR WAY  
OUT AND GO HOME.  
RIGHT?

RIGHT!  
COMING?

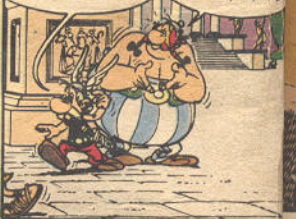


OBELIX, THOSE LEGIONARIES  
IN CAESAR'S PALACE ARE A  
TOUGHER PROPOSITION THAN  
THE SORT WE GET AT HOME... AND  
THE MAGIC POTION DOESN'T  
MAKE US INVULNERABLE.  
WE MUST THINK OF  
SOMETHING  
ELSE.



THAT MAN JUST  
CAME OUT OF THE  
PALACE. HE MIGHT  
BE ABLE TO TELL US  
HOW TO GET IN. LET'S  
FOLLOW HIM.

BUT... HE MAY  
KNOW THE WAY  
OUT, BUT THAT  
DOESN'T MEAN  
SAY HE KNOWS  
THE WAY IN AND...



EXCUSE ME! WE'RE  
STRANGERS HERE, AND  
WE'D LIKE TO ASK YOU  
A FEW QUESTIONS.

I'M A  
BUSY MAN  
GAUL...

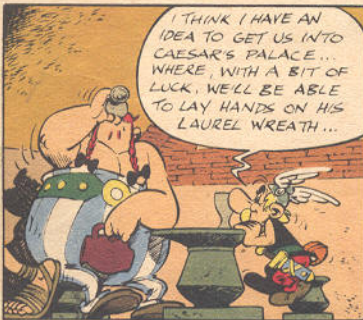
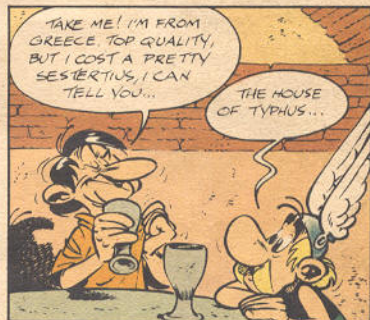
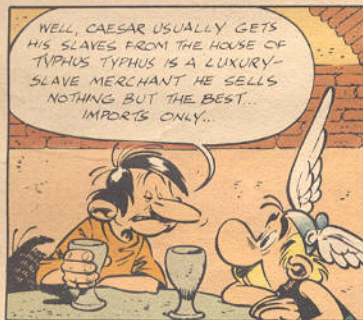


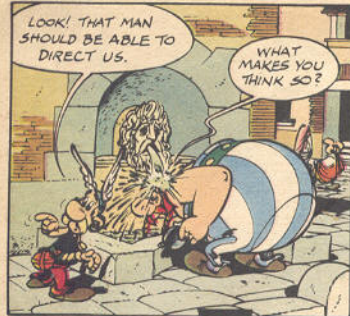
HOW ABOUT  
GOING IN HERE FOR  
A LITTLE DRINK?

I DON'T REALLY  
KNOW IF  
I CAN...

JUST AS I THOUGHT! HE  
CAN GET OUT OF PLACES  
RIGHT, BUT HE'S NOT  
GOOD AT GETTING IN...







LOOK! THAT MAN SHOULD BE ABLE TO DIRECT US.

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK SO?



SLAVES! SLAVES! FINE UPSTANDING SLAVES!

WHO'LL BUY MY GOTHS? NICE FRESH GOTHS!

NUUUMIDIANS NUUUMIDIANS!

HEAVY-DUTY NIMBLE HOPLITES!

BELGIANS! BELGIANS! BELGIANS! BELGIANS!

YOU'LL NEVER WANT TO GET SHOT OF MY PARTHIANS!

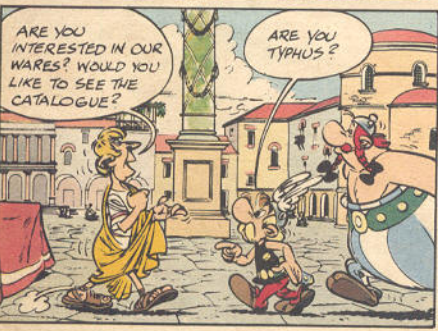
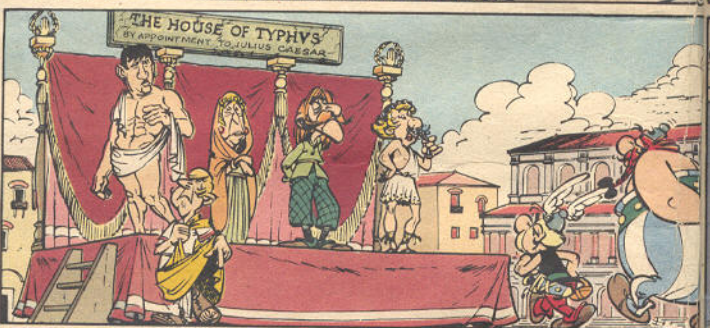
DANCING-GIRLS! DANCING-GIRLS! THIS WAY FOR THE DANCING-GIRLS!



THE SLAVE MARKET? I'VE JUST LEFT IT ITS THAT WAY.

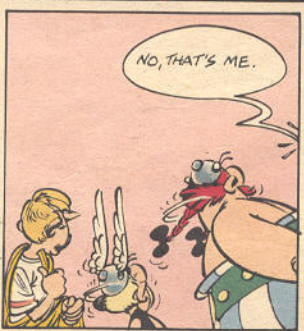


AH! THIS MUST BE IT.



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN OUR WARES? WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE THE CATALOGUE?

ARE YOU TYPHUS?



NO, THAT'S ME.



WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU? WE'VE JUST HAD A DELIVERY OF REALLY TOP QUALITY BRITONS...

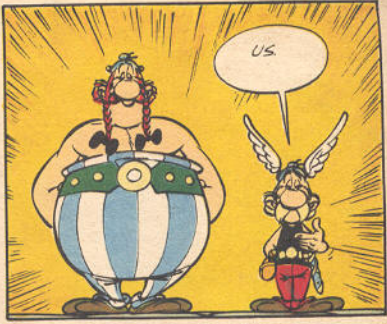


WE DON'T WANT TO BUY, WE WANT TO SELL.

SELL! OH, THAT'S DIFFERENT...



IF YOU'RE IN THE TRADE I CAN ONLY SEE YOU FIRST THING IN THE MORNING... WELL, AND WHO DID YOU HAVE TO OFFER ME?



US.



YOU? I DON'T GO BUYING ANY OLD THING.

WE'RE NOT ANY OLD THING!



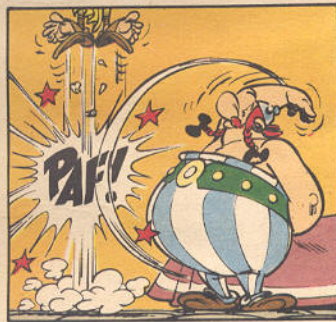
THIS ONE SMELLS OF WINE.

WELL, YES, BUT HE ONLY INDULGES ONCE IN A WHILE... AND HE'S VERY STRONG.



SHOW US HOW STRONG YOU ARE OBELIX!

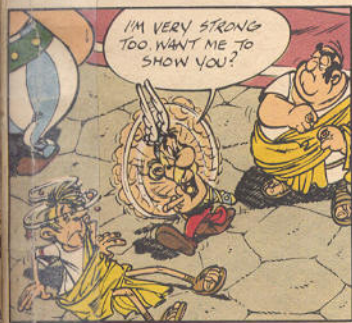
RIGHT.



PAF!



YES, YES... BUT I SPECIALIZE IN ELEGANT STUFF I'M EXPECTING THE PALACE MAJOR-DOMO ANY MINUTE, LET ME TELL YOU, HE'S COMING TO BUY SOME SLAVES...



I'M VERY STRONG TOO. WANT ME TO SHOW YOU?



NO! NO! DON'T BOTHER... MAFTER, I'M FURE THEY WON'T FPOIL THE DIFPLAY...



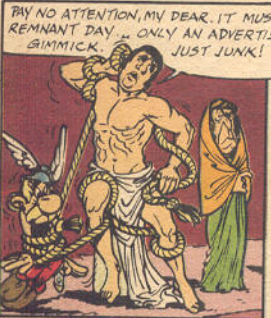
RIGHT, I'LL TAKE YOU, BUT ONLY ON SALE OR RETURN. IF I DON'T SELL YOU TODAY, YOU CAN GO AND GET SOLD SOMEWHERE ELSE.



COME ON! UP ON THE PLATFORM! LET'S SEE A BIT OF CLASS! WE'RE NOT FLOGGING ANY CHEAP MASS-PRODUCED SLAVES HERE, YOU KNOW!



HMPH...! I CAN SMELL THE FUMES OF WINE!  
WHERE? WHERE?



PAY NO ATTENTION, MY DEAR. IT MUST BE REMNANT DAY... ONLY AN ADVERTISING GRIMMICK.



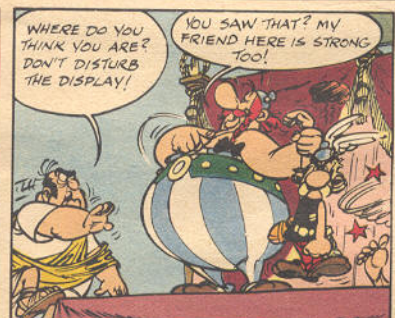
JUNK? WHO'S JUNK?  
SHUT UP, OBELIX!  
YOU ARE, YOU SECOND-HAND PIECE OF GOODS!  
FLAWED, AT THAT.



YOU'LL BE FLOORED TOO IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL!  
SHUT UP, YOU FREE GIFT!



SCHLAF!



WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU ARE? DON'T DISTURB THE DISPLAY!  
YOU SAW THAT? MY FRIEND HERE IS STRONG TOO!



I SAY, SO HE IS, OLD BOY! JOLLY GOOD SHOW!  
YOU SHUT UP, BRITON, OR I'LL SELL YOU AT A DISCOUNT!



AND YOU GET OUT, GAULS!



YOU MAY FIND A DEPARTMENT STORE OR SUPERMARKET TO TAKE YOU. YOU'RE FREE!  
OH NO, WE'RE NOT! AND IF NECESSARY WE'LL FIGHT TO LOSE OUR FREEDOM!



GET THESE GOODS OUT OF HERE! I'M EXPECTING CAESAR'S MAJOR-DOMO ANY MINUTE.



SUCH GONES-ON ARE MOST DEGRADING! I PROTEST, IN THE NAME OF THE ENTIRE STOCK!

OHNC!

TEHAC!



HOW MUCH FOR THOSE TWO GAULS?

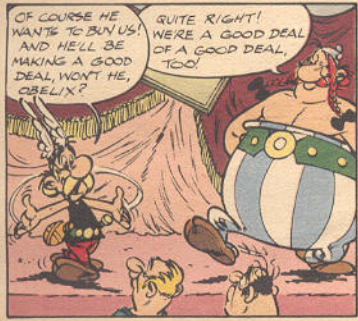
?



YOU... YOU WANT TO BUY THEM?

I THINK THEY'RE QUITE AMUSING.

PAF!



OF COURSE HE WANTS TO BUY US! AND HE'LL BE MAKING A GOOD DEAL, WON'T HE, OBELIX?

QUITE RIGHT! WE'RE A GOOD DEAL OF A GOOD DEAL, TOO!



THAT DEPENDS HOW MUCH DO YOU COST?

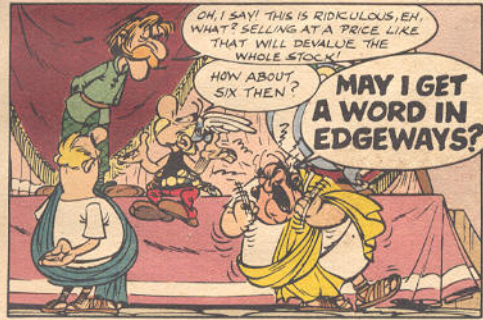
NAME YOUR PRICE! HE'LL TAKE IT.



NO, GO ON, DO YOU NAME A PRICE.

FIVE SESTERTII! THE PAIR, ALL RIGHT?

OH, COME NOW! WAIT A MINUTE...



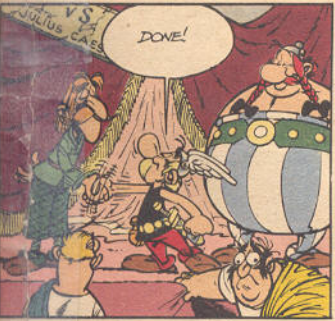
OH, I SAY! THIS IS RIDICULOUS, EH, WHAT? SELLING AT A PRICE LIKE THAT WILL DEVALUE THE WHOLE STOCK!

HOW ABOUT SIX THEN?

MAY I GET A WORD IN EDGWAYS?



TEN! BRITONS NEVER, NEVER, NEVER SHALL BE CUT-PRICE SLAVES!



DONE!

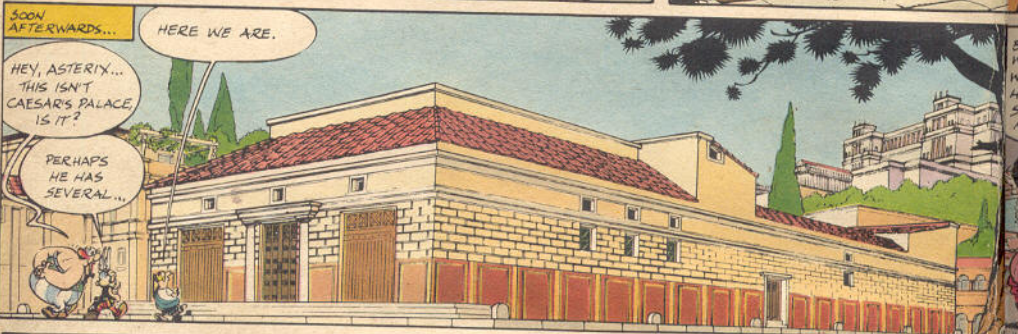
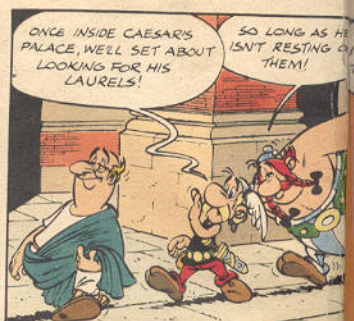
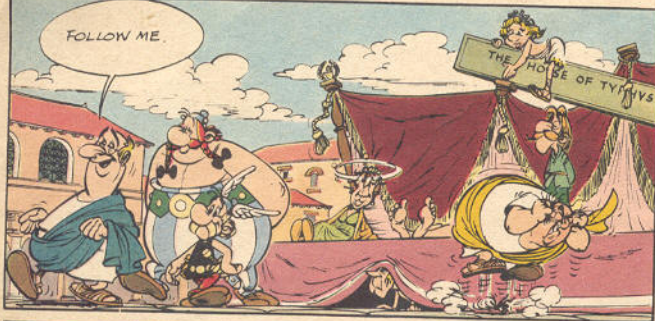


HERE YOU ARE!

OH, NO! ALLOW ME!



WELL, IF YOU INSIST, I'LL DO AS MUCH FOR YOU ONE OF THESE DAYS.

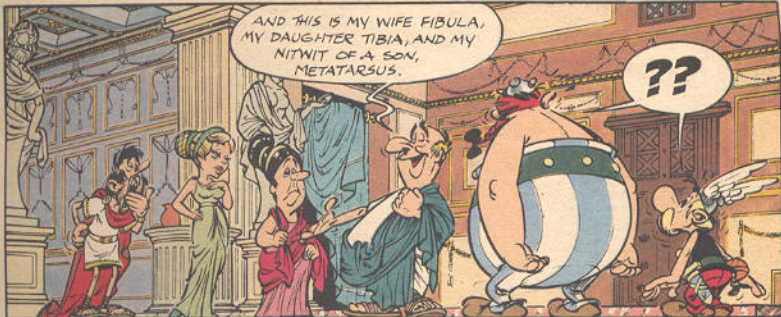




WHY, NO, GAUL! THIS ISN'T CAESAR'S PALACE! THE HOUSE BELONGS TO ME, OSSEUS HUMERUS!



AND THIS IS MY WIFE FIBULA, MY DAUGHTER TIBIA, AND MY NITWIT OF A SON, METATARSUS.



BUT WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH THEM? WE HAVE ALL THE SLAVES WE NEED.

THEY COULD WORK IN THE KITCHEN. GAULISH CUISINE IS GOOD... ANYWAY, IT CAN'T BE ANY WORSE THAN WHAT OUR BRITISH SLAVE AUTODIDAX GIVES US.



**GOLDEN-DELICIOUS!**



YES, MASTER?

GOLDENDELICIOUS, TAKE THESE TWO GAULISH SLAVES TO THE KITCHEN. THEY ARE TO PREPARE OUR MEALS.



GO WITH OUR MAJOR-DOMD, GOLDENDELICIOUS.

LOOK HERE...

AND TAKE CARE OF THEM, THEY'RE FROM THE HOUSE OF TYPHUS!

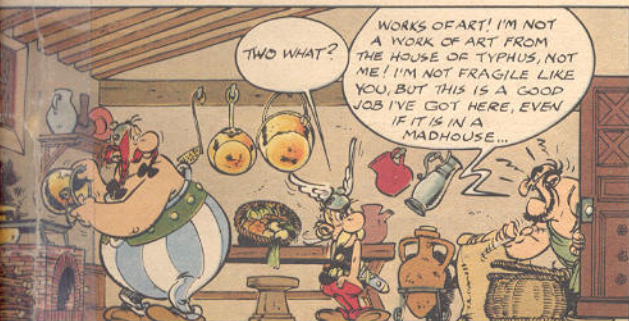


WELL, THIS IS ALL YOURS, YOU TWO PRECIOUS WORKS OF ART!



TWO WHAT?

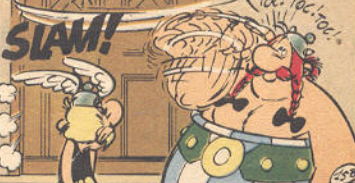
WORKS OF ART! I'M NOT A WORK OF ART FROM THE HOUSE OF TYPHUS, NOT ME! I'M NOT FRAGILE LIKE YOU, BUT THIS IS A GOOD JOB I'VE GOT HERE, EVEN IF IT IS IN A MADHOUSE...




AND DON'T YOU GO TRYING TO EDGE ME OUT OF IT!

THAT ROMAN IS CRAZY! THIS IS THE FIRST TIME ANYONE EVER TOLD ME I WAS FRAGILE!


**SLAM!**



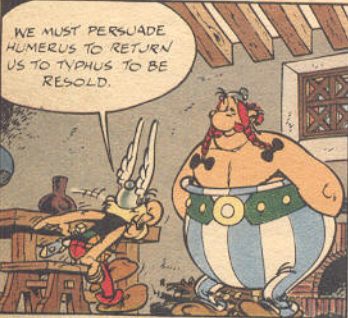


WE'VE MADE A MISTAKE... ALL THIS IS ONLY TAKING US FURTHER AWAY FROM CAESAR'S LAUREL WREATH.

WELL THEN, LET'S GO.




NO, WE'RE SLAVES. IF WE RUN AWAY WE'LL NEVER HAVE A CHANCE OF GETTING INTO CAESAR'S PALACE.




WE MUST PERSUADE HUMERUS TO RETURN US TO TYPHUS TO BE RESOLD.

JUST LIKE THE PEOPLE WHO BUY YOUR MENHIRS AND BRING THEM BACK BECAUSE THEY'RE NOT SATISFIED.

ALL MY CUSTOMERS ARE SATISFIED!




AH, BUT YOUR MENHIRS DON'T DO THE COOKING...




WE'LL MAKE THEM A MEAL THEY WON'T FORGET IN A HURRY, BY TOUTATIS! BRING ME EVERYTHING YOU CAN FIND IN THE LARDER!

HERE YOU ARE! JAM, BLACK PEPPERCORNS, SALT, KIDNEYS, CARBOLK SOAP, A CHICKEN, HONEY, RED PEPPERS, BLACK PUDDING EGGS, AND POMEGRANATE SEEDS!



I'VE FOUND SOME MORE RED PEPPERS AND BLACK PEPPERCORNS... WE'LL FLUNG IT ALL IN THE POT!



HOW ABOUT THE CHICKEN? SHALL I PLUCK IT?

WHY BOTHER?

SOON AFTERWARDS...

IT'S NEARLY DONE.

CAN I HAVE A TASTE?

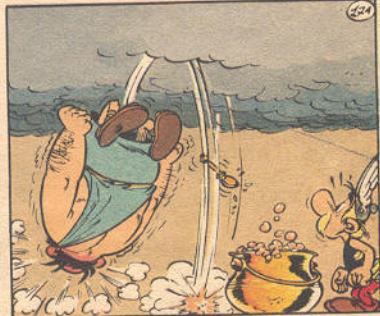


CENA TIME, MY TWO COLLECTORS ITEMS! IS IT READY?

YOU COULD SAY THAT.



WAIT A MOMENT! I'M GOING TO SEE WHAT KIND OF HIGH-CLASS CUISINE THESE TWO PRODUCE!



AAAAAAHH!



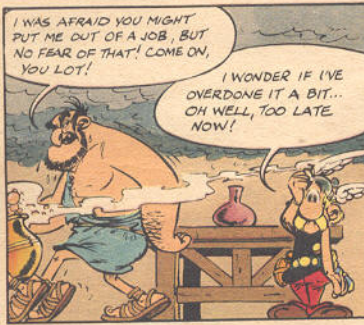
GRRRRAOOO...



HUMPF!  
HUMPF!  
HUMPF!

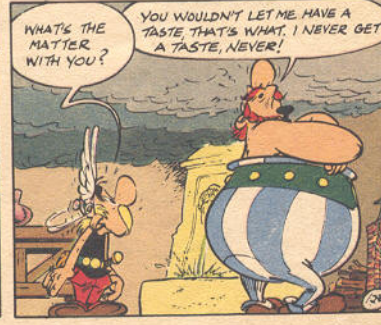


MARVELLOUS! WONDERFUL! YOU'LL BE CRUCIFIED... YOU MAY COME FROM THE HOUSE OF TYPHUS, BUT YOU'LL STILL BE CRUCIFIED!



I WAS AFRAID YOU MIGHT PUT ME OUT OF A JOB, BUT NO FEAR OF THAT! COME ON, YOU LOT!

I WONDER IF I'VE OVERDONE IT A BIT... OH WELL, TOO LATE NOW!



WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?

YOU WOULDN'T LET ME HAVE A TASTE THAT'S WHAT. I NEVER GET A TASTE, NEVER!

**METATARSUS! GET OUT OF YOUR CUBICULUM AND COME INTO THE TRICLINIUM! CENA IS SERVED!**



LOOK, I'LL DO ANYTHING, ONLY DON'T SHOUT LIKE THAT... I'D RATHER BE BETTER FLAT ON MY CUBILE, BUT IF...



THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE MANAGED TO DECUBILITATE YOURSELF GIVES YOU NO RIGHT TO BEHAVE EARLY, LIE DOWN TO THE TABLE PROPERLY.

IT DOES SMELL FUNNY...

NOT FOR ME, THANKS.

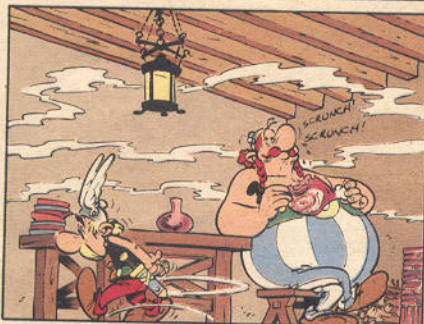


**THIS MEAL WAS COOKED BY MY TWO GAULS FROM THE HOUSE OF TYPHUS YOU'LL EAT IT AND LIKE IT!!!**



etc...

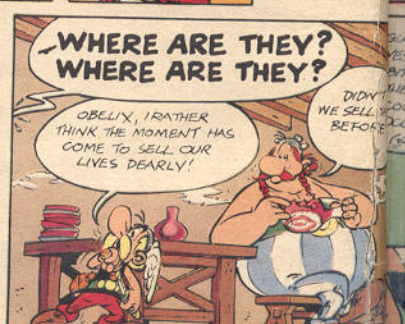
TEEHEE MEE!

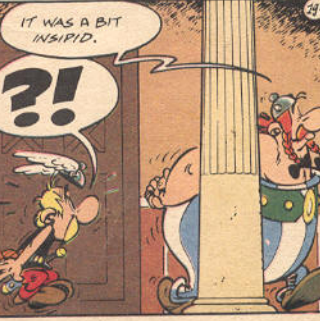
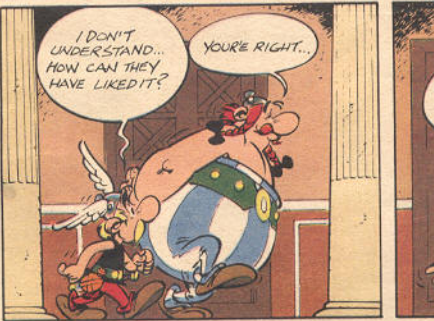


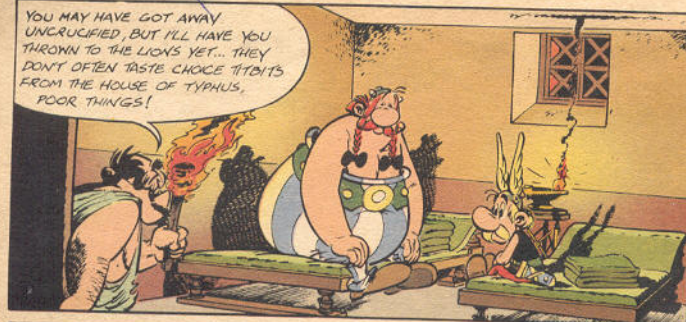
**WHERE ARE THEY? WHERE ARE THEY?**

OBLIX, I RATHER THINK THE MOMENT HAS COME TO SELL OUR LIVES DEARLY!

DIDN'T WE SELL BEFORE?



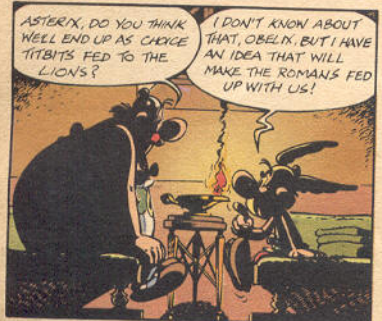




YOU MAY HAVE GOT AWAY UNCRUCIFIED, BUT I'LL HAVE YOU THROWN TO THE LIONS YET... THEY DON'T OFTEN TASTE CHOICE TITBITS FROM THE HOUSE OF TYRPHUS, POOR THINGS!



MEANWHILE, SLEEP TIGHT, MY WORKS OF WE RISE AT DAWN IN HOUSE, AND I SHALL RE YOUR NOSES TO THE GRINDSTONE!



ASTERIX, DO YOU THINK WE'LL END UP AS CHOICE TITBITS FED TO THE LIONS?

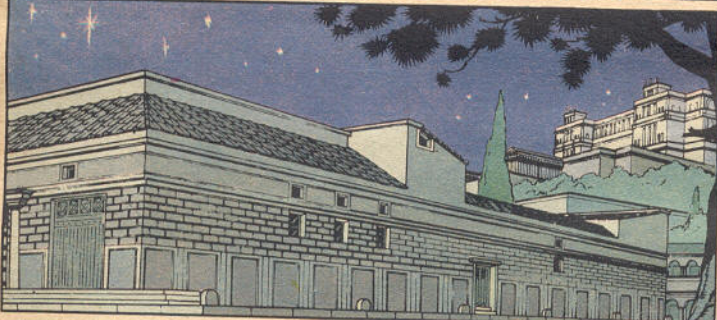
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT, OBELIX, BUT I HAVE AN IDEA THAT WILL MAKE THE ROMANS FED UP WITH US!



WE'LL KEEP THEM AWAKE ALL NIGHT... AND SINCE THE ROMANS RISE AT DAWN, THEY WON'T LIKE THAT.



WE'LL BE SOLD BACK FIRST THING TOMORROW.



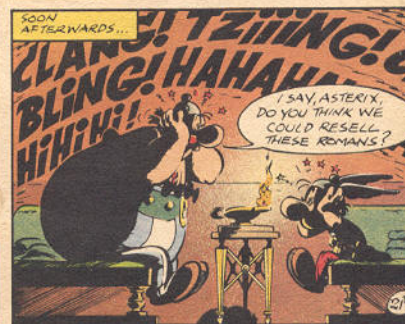
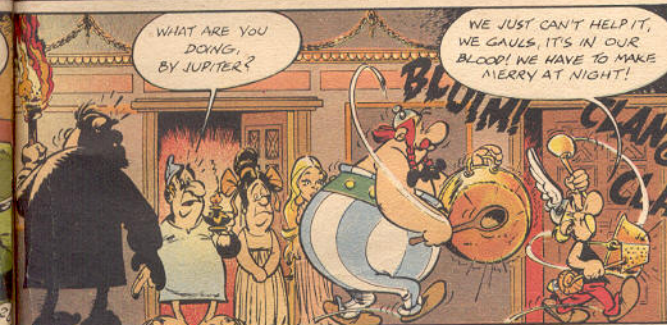
IT'S TIME!  
HGMFFF--FKHGPEFFF!



WE NEED SOMETHING TO MAKE A LOUD NOISE. LET'S TRY THE KITCHEN.

COULDN'T WE MAKE A LOUD NOISE BY SNORING?



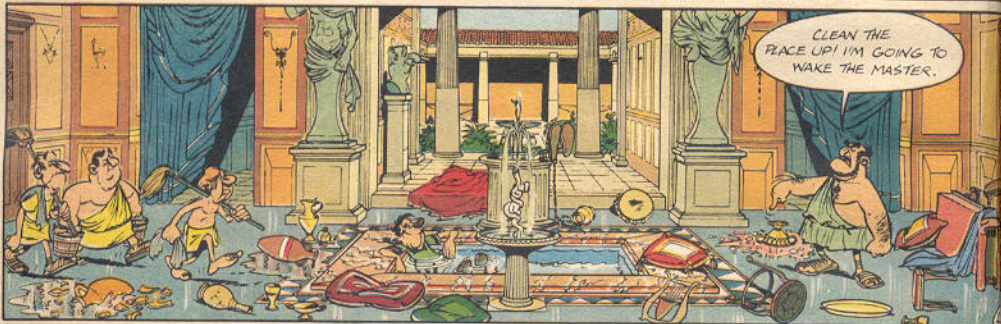


THE SUN RISES UPON A HOUSE WHICH HAS FINALLY FALLEN SILENT...



COME ON, YOU LOT! BRING OUT YOUR MAPPAE AND SCOPAE! \*

\* FLOORCLOTHS AND BROOMS



CLEAN THE PLACE UP! I'M GOING TO WAKE THE MASTER.



MASTER, THE SUN IS ALREADY HIGH IN THE SKY. AM I TO SEND FOR THE TONSOR TO SHAVE YOU?



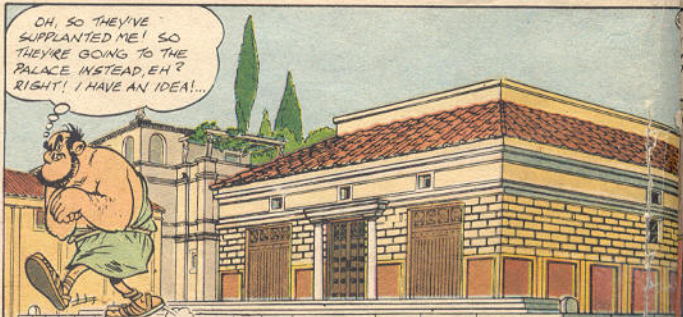
NO! AND TELL ALL THOSE OTHER IDIOTS THAT IF THEY GO ON MAKING THAT NOISE I'LL SEND THEM OFF AS A JOB LOT, WITH YOU AND THE TONSOR THROWN IN!



OOOOH! MY HEAD... ER... MASTER... MAY I REMIND YOU THAT YOU HAVE AN IMPORTANT ENGAGEMENT AT THE PALACE THIS MORNING? AM I TO GO AND SAY YOU'RE ILL?

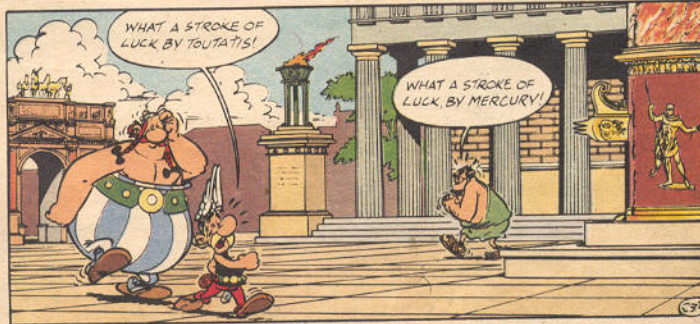
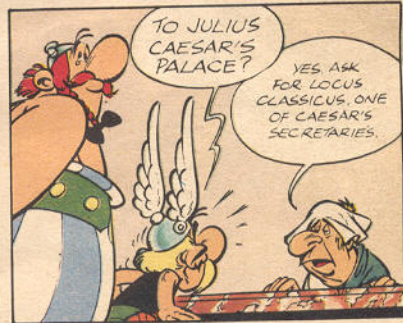
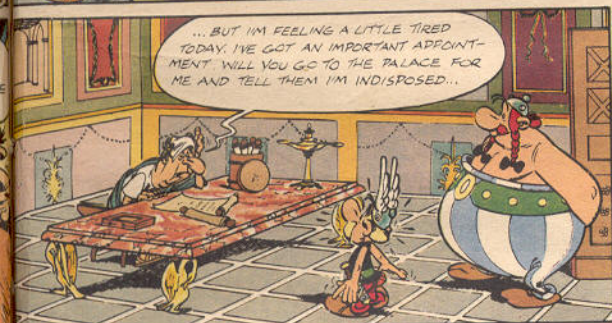
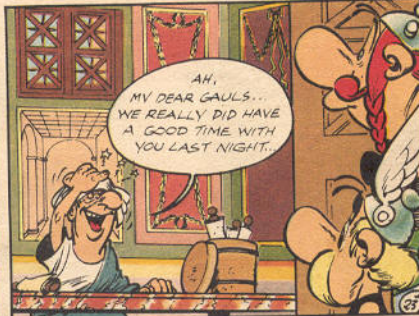


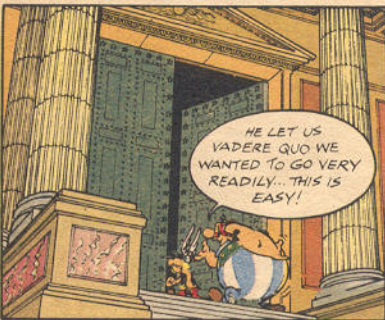
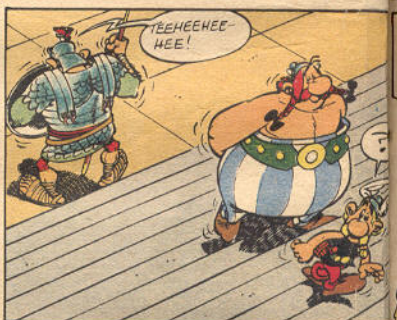
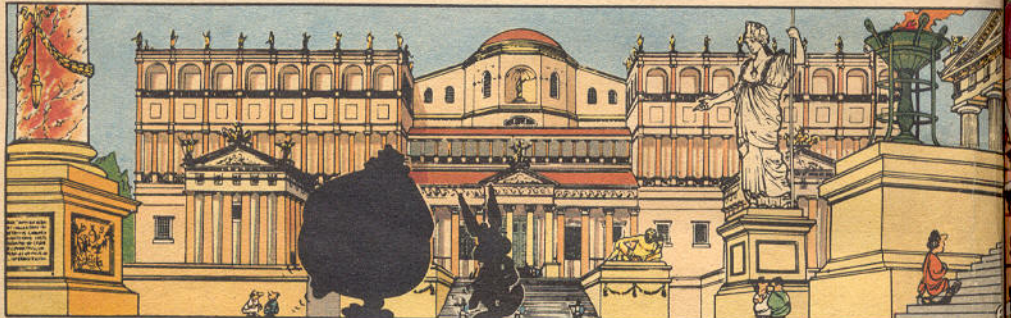
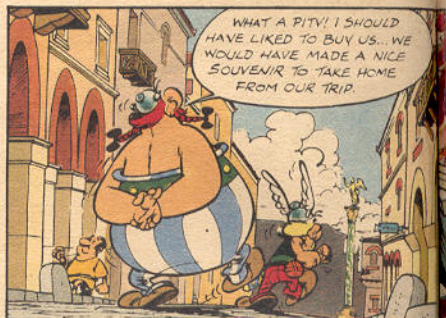
HMM? NO... I'LL SEND MY GAULS FROM THE HOUSE OF TYPHUS, THAT WILL LOOK MORE ELEGANT. NOW LEAVE ME ALONE, I FEEL A BIT EX COLORE CLEAR OFF!

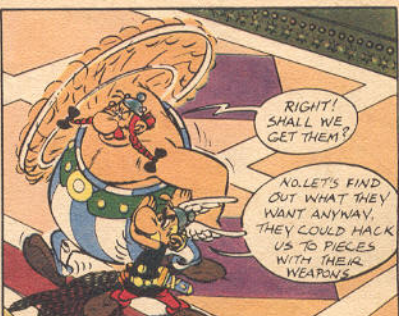
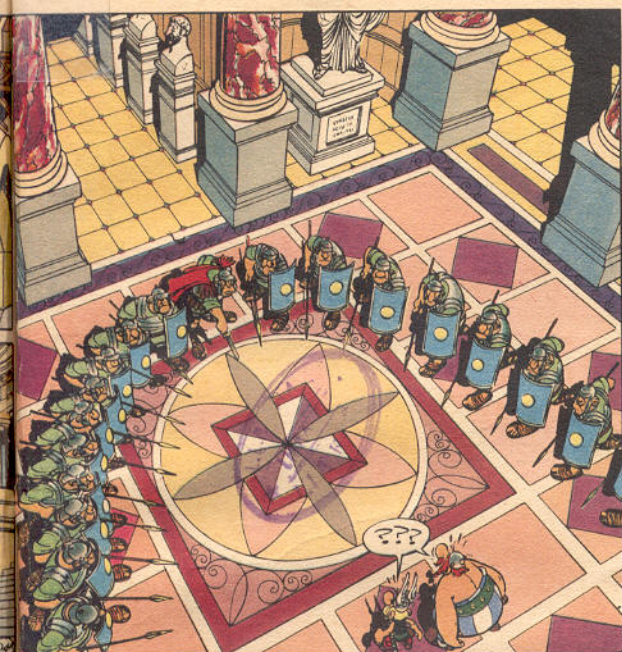


OH, SO THEY'VE SUPPLANTED ME! SO THEY'RE GOING TO THE PALACE INSTEAD, EH? RIGHT! I HAVE AN IDEA!





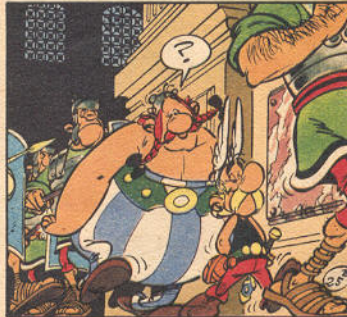
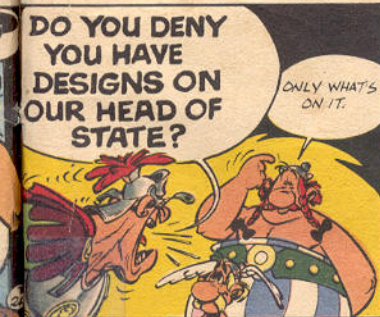
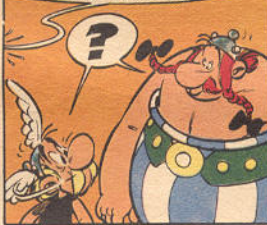


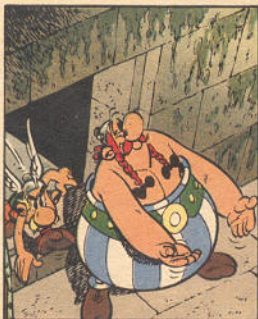
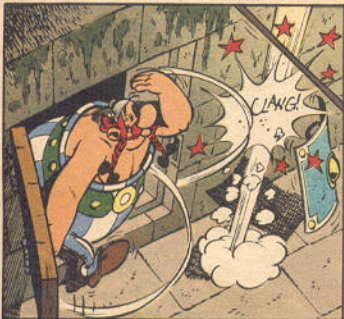
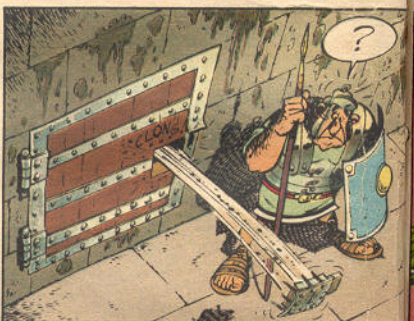
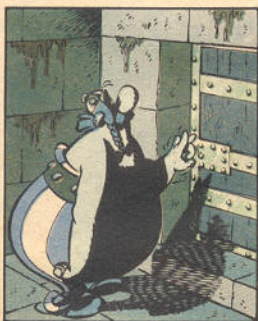
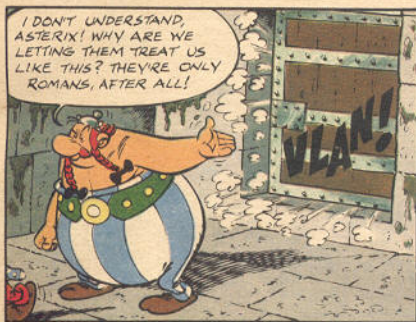


AN HONEST SLAVE, WHO WILL BE REWARDED FOR HIS SERVICES, HAS DENOUNCED YOU. HE DISCOVERED YOUR PLOT.

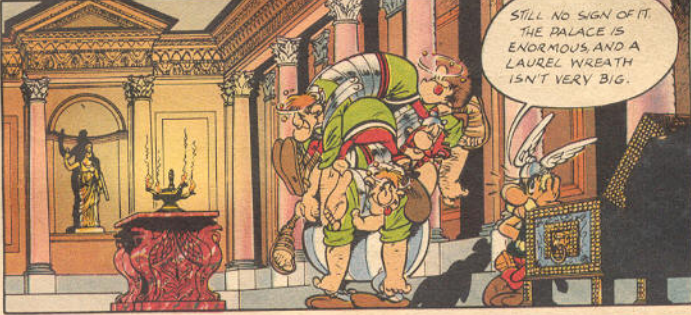
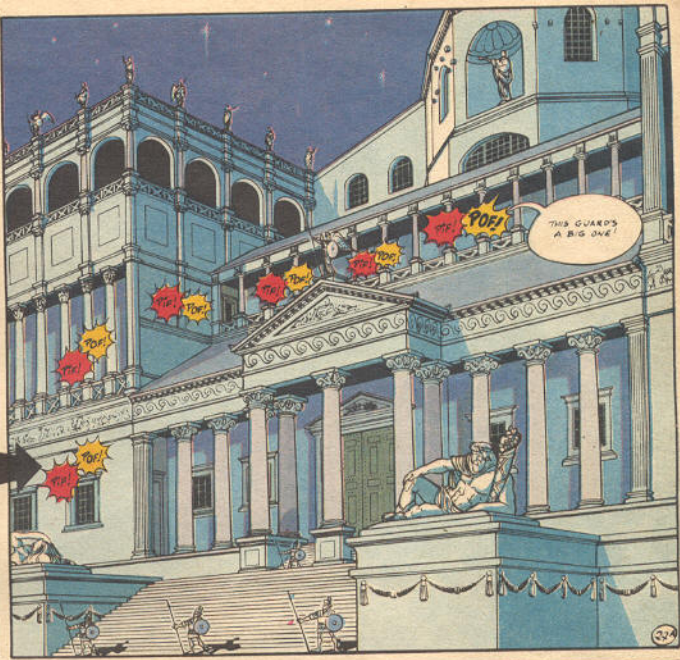
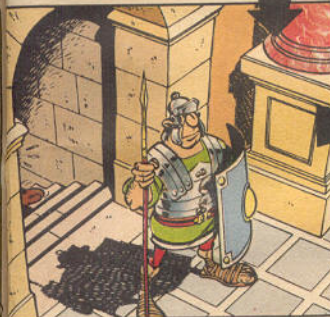


... YOU USED A TRICK TO INFILTRATE THE HOUSE OF OSSEUS HUMERUS IN ORDER TO FIND A PRETEXT TO GET INTO CAESAR'S PALACE AND KILL HIM!





WE'LL SEARCH EVERYWHERE,  
AS QUIETLY AS POSSIBLE.

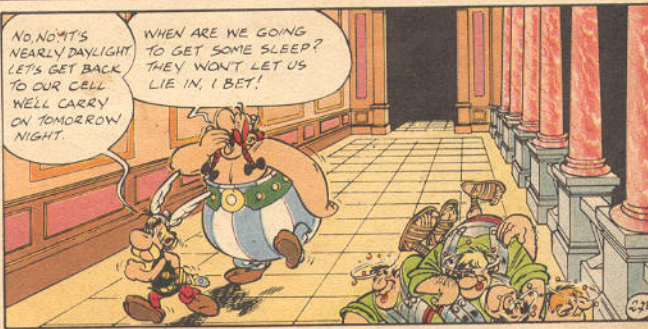


I'LL JUST DUMP THESE HERE... WE  
SEEM TO BE GETTING ON TOP OF ONE  
ANOTHER. THEN WE CAN GO ON!



NO, NO! IT'S  
NEARLY DAYLIGHT.  
LET'S GET BACK  
TO OUR CELL.  
WE'LL CARRY  
ON TOMORROW  
NIGHT.

WHEN ARE WE GOING  
TO GET SOME SLEEP?  
THEY WON'T LET US  
LIE IN, I BET!



ANOTHER SUNNY DAY HAS JUST DAWNED UPON THE GREATEST CITY IN THE UNIVERSE: ROME!

**SOUND THE ALARM!**

WHERE AM I?

ON TOP OF ME, YOU IDIOT!

**THE PRISONERS HAVE ESCAPED!**

THEY KNOCKED OUT ALL THE GUARDS ON NIGHT DUTY. THIS IS REALLY GETTING ON TOP OF ME!

LOOK, CENTURION! THE LOCK IS BROKEN!

**BY JUPITER!**

**YOU ROMANS MUST BE CRAZY! IS THERE NO WAY OF GETTING ANY SLEEP ROUND HERE???**

!?!  
DEATH TO THE LIONS

YOU...YOU HAVEN'T ESCAPED?

No! SHUT THE DOOR, AND GET THAT LOCK REPAIRED!

I...I'M SORRY...

HUH! WE CAN'T GET PEACE AND QUIET ANYWHERE!

THEY'RE WIZARDS!

GAULISH DRUIDS, PERHAPS...

THE GAULS HAVE STRANGE AND TERRIBLE GODS...!

WE MUST GET RID OF THEM, AND QUICKLY! I WAS WAITING FOR CAESAR TO RETURN; HOWEVER, IT CAN'T BE HELPED... MEANWHILE, DOUBLE THE GUARD! SPREAD YOURSELVES OUT! DON'T GET ON TOP OF ONE ANOTHER!

I DON'T LIKE BIG TOWNS; I NEVER SLEEP WELL THERE. I FEEL HEMMED IN... SHUT UP...

WHAT WE MUST DO IS FIND CAESAR... HE'S GENERALLY TO BE FOUND JUST UNDERNEATH HIS LAUREL WREATH.

AH! SO THESE ARE MY CLIENTS!

YOUR CLIENTS?

YES, I'M YOUR LAWYER, TITUS NISIPRIUS.

YOU ARE GOING TO BE TRIED THIS VERY DAY, AND I'VE BEEN ASSIGNED TO YOU AS LEGAL AID. IT'S A GOOD BRIEF FOR ME. TWO GAULISH WIZARDS - THAT'LL ATTRACT A LARGE CROWD!

I HAVE A VERY FINE SPEECH PREPARED. IT BEGINS LIKE THIS - DELENDA CARTHAGO, SAID THE GREAT CATO...

ARE YOU GOING TO GET US SET FREE?

YOU MUST BE JOKING! LOTS OF WILD ANIMALS HAVE ARRIVED IN THE CIRCUS, AND THEY'VE HAD NOTHING SUBSTANTIAL TO GET THEIR TEETH INTO... SO YOU SEE, TWO GAULISH WIZARDS. JUST THINK! WHAT A SHOW!

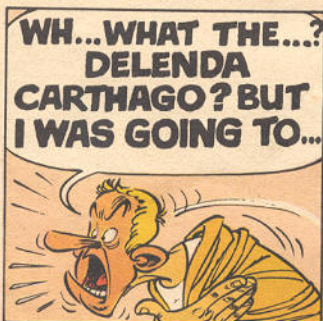
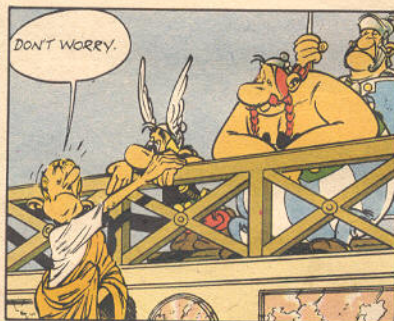
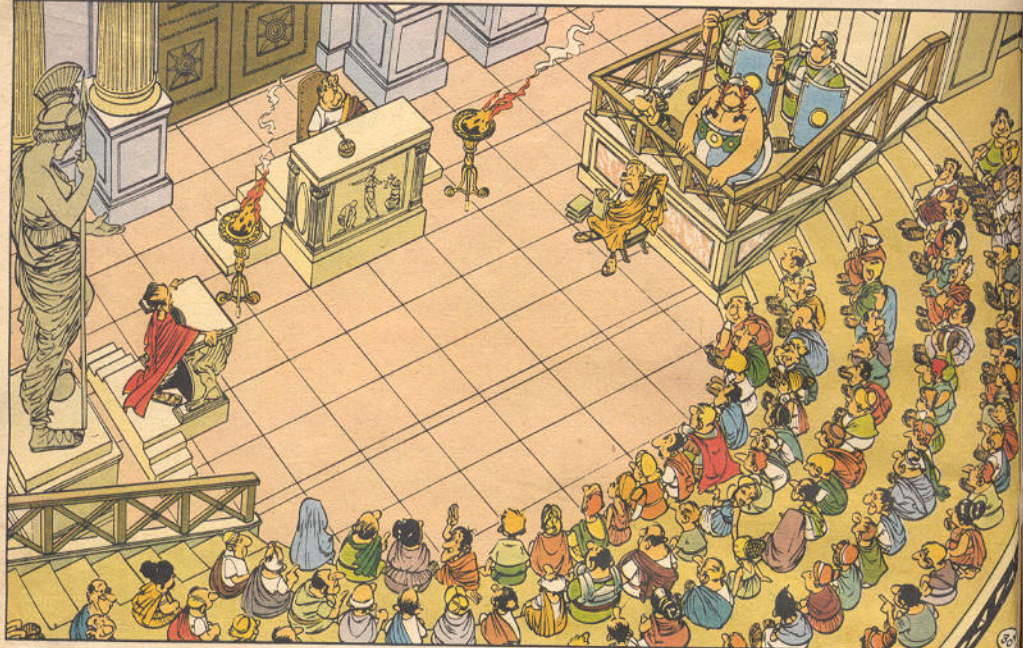
DOES JULIUS CAESAR GO TO THESE SAKNS?

USUALLY, YES... DELENDA CARTHAGO I SHALL SAY TO THEM...

AND WHEN HE GOES TO THE CIRCUS, DOES HE WEAR HIS LAUREL WREATH?

I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM IN A STRAW HAT, MY FRIEND... WHY DON'T YOU LISTEN TO MY PLEA FOR THE DEFENCE? DELENDA CARTHAGO SAID THE GREAT CATO...

BRING THE GAULISH WIZARDS BEFORE THE COURT!



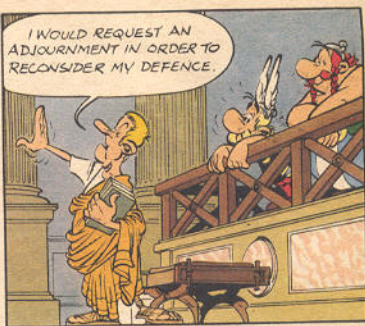




YOU MAY SPEAK, DELATOR.



SO IT IS CATO YOU HEAR SPEAKING THROUGH ME... DELEDA CARTHAGO, AS I WAS SAYING, AND...



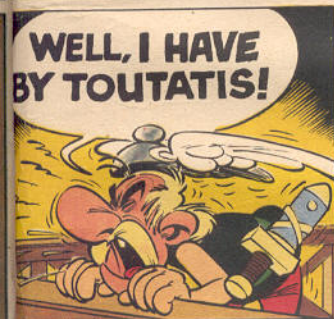
I WOULD REQUEST AN ADJOURNMENT IN ORDER TO RECONSIDER MY DEFENCE.



SILENCE IN COURT! DELATOR, HAVE YOU ANY OBJECTIONS TO THE DEFENCE COUNSEL'S REQUEST?

NONE WHATSOEVER.

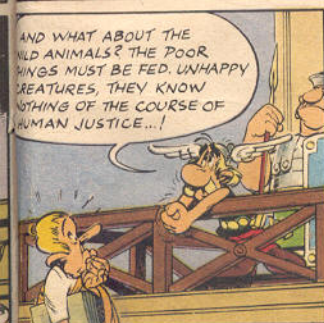
BANG!  
BANG!  
BANG!



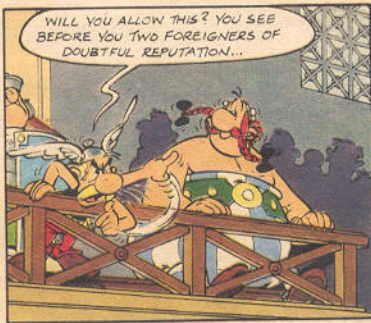
WELL, I HAVE BY TOUTATIS!



SILENCE!  
SILENCE, OR I'LL  
HAVE THE COURT  
CLEARED!



AND WHAT ABOUT THE WILD ANIMALS? THE POOR THINGS MUST BE FED. UNHAPPY CREATURES, THEY KNOW NOTHING OF THE COURSE OF HUMAN JUSTICE...!



WILL YOU ALLOW THIS? YOU SEE BEFORE YOU TWO FOREIGNERS OF DOUBTFUL REPUTATION...



... WHO HAVE ABUSED THE GOOD FAITH OF AN HONEST AND REPUTABLE SLAVE DEALER...!



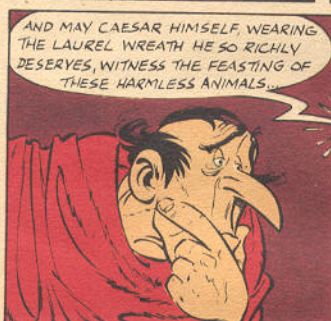
TWO FOREIGNERS WHO HAVE DECEITFULLY INFILTRATED A FAMILY HIGHLY RESPECTED IN THE CITY, WITH THE SOLE AIM OF FINDING A PRETEXT FOR A COWARDLY ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF THE ILLUSTRIOUS PERSON OF JULIUS CAESAR...



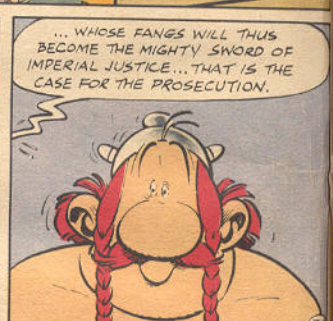
... AND YOU WASTE YOUR TIME IN FUTILE ARGUMENTS? IN ENDLESS SPEECHES?



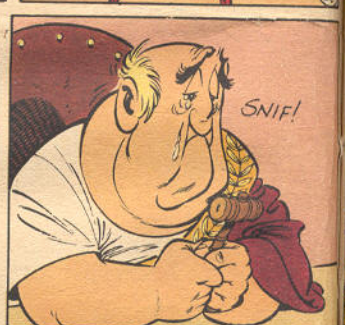
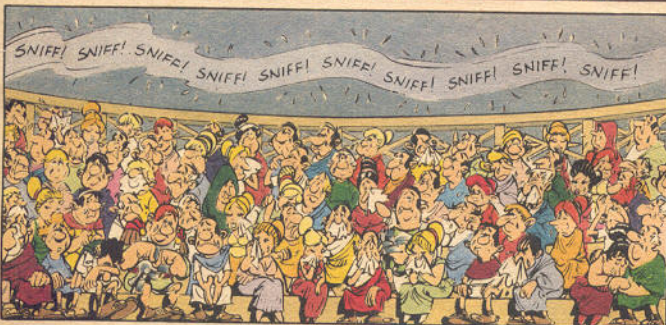
I SAY **NOOOO!** JUDGES, I SAY **NO!** THROW THEM TO THE LIONS! TO THE LIONS, I SAY!



AND MAY CAESAR HIMSELF, WEARING THE LAUREL WREATH HE SO RICHLY DESERVES, WITNESS THE FEASTING OF THESE HARMLESS ANIMALS...



... WHOSE FANGS WILL THUS BECOME THE MIGHTY SWORD OF IMPERIAL JUSTICE... THAT IS THE CASE FOR THE PROSECUTION.



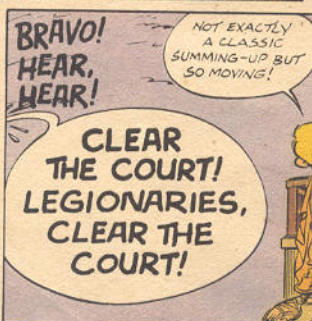
SNIFF!



I FIND THE ACCUSED GUILTY. I SENTENCE THEM TO BE THROWN TO THE LIONS IN THE CIRCUS MAXIMUS!

**BRAVO!**  
**BRAVO!**  
**HEAR, HEAR!**

**LONG LIVE THE PRISONERS!**  
**BRAVO!**



**BRAVO!**  
**HEAR, HEAR!**

NOT EXACTLY A CLASSIC SUMMING-UP BUT SO MOVING!

**CLEAR THE COURT!**  
**LEGIONARIES,**  
**CLEAR THE COURT!**



THOSE WILD ANIMALS ARE LUCKY! VERY, VERY LUCKY!

ONE OF THE SINISTER  
CELLS IN THE CIRCUS  
MAXIMUS...

TYPHUS HAS SENT YOU THIS  
AMPHORA OF WINE, AND THESE  
DELICACIES ARE FROM THE  
HUMERUS FAMILY...

THAT ROAST  
BOAR WAS  
GOOD.

THAT'S THE ADVANTAGE  
OF BEING THROWN TO  
THE LIONS. YOU ALWAYS  
GET TASTY GOURMET  
DISHES...

WHEREAS THOSE THROWN  
FROM THE TARPEIAN ROCK  
GET SOLID, HEAVY FOOD.

THERE'S A FANTASTIC LINE-UP ON  
THE PROGRAMME: LIONS, PANTHERS,  
TIGERS! ALL FINE SPECIMENS! THEY'VE  
EATEN NOTHING BUT LETTUCE FOR A  
WHOLE WEEK NOW!

DO YOU HAVE NO CAUSE  
FOR COMPLAINT! YOU  
BALLY ARE SPOILT!

ASTERIX,  
I'M SCARED.

SCARED? SCARED  
OF A FEW WILD  
ANIMALS?

OH, I'M NOT WORRIED  
ABOUT THE ANIMALS, IT'S  
THE PUBLIC! ALL THOSE  
PEOPLE!

YOU'LL BE ALL  
RIGHT IN THE  
ARENA...

I'M SURE THAT ONCE THE  
SHOW BEGINS OTHER  
PERSONS FORGET THEIR  
PAGE FRIGHT TOO AND  
THINK OF NOTHING BUT  
THE ANIMALS.

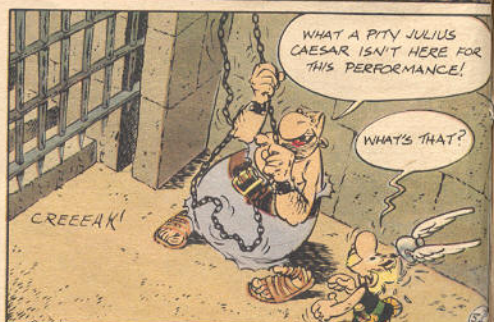
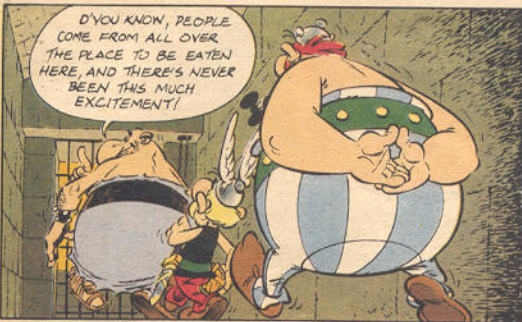
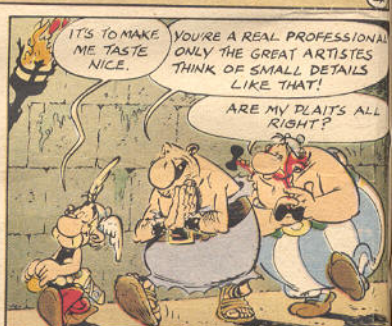
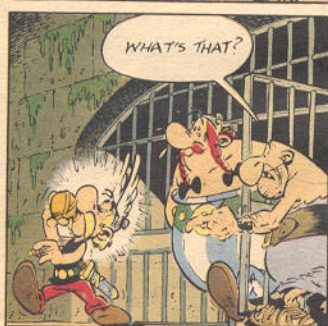
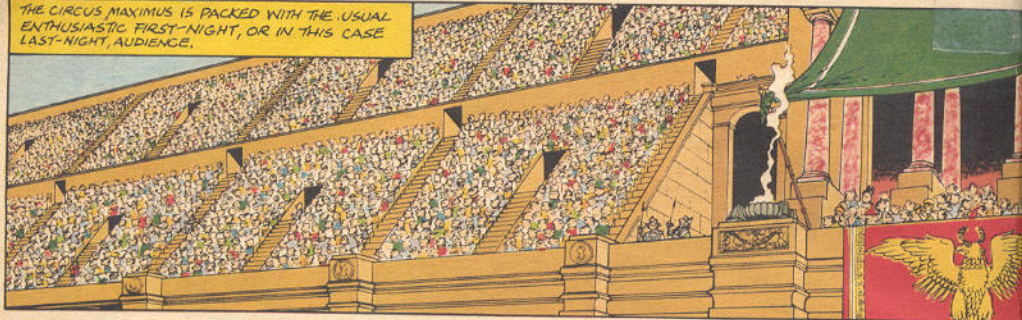
I'M  
AFRAID OF  
LETTING THE  
AUDIENCE DOWN...  
LOOKING SILLY...

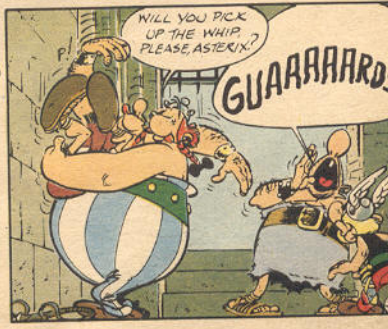
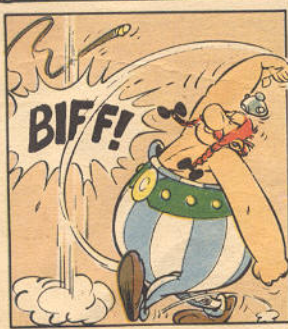
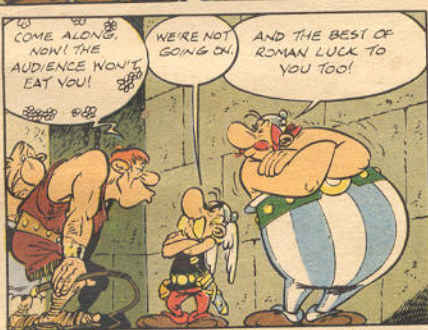
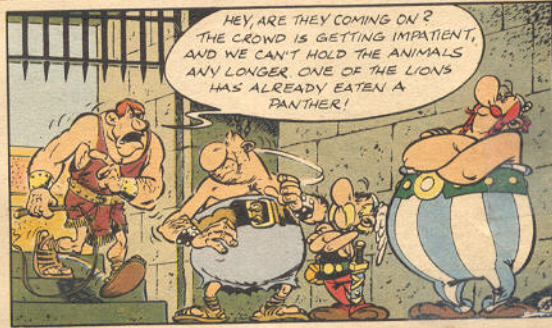
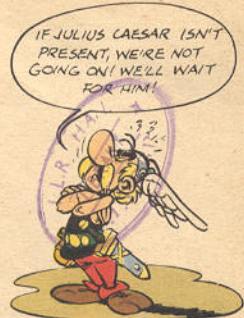
EXCUSE ME, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE  
A DROP OF OIL TO RUB ME DOWN  
WITH, WOULD YOU? LIKE THE  
GLADIATORS? IT LOOKS GOOD.

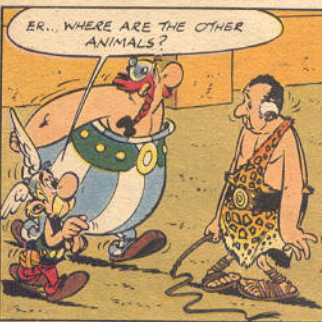
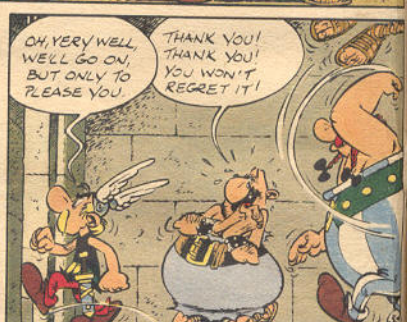
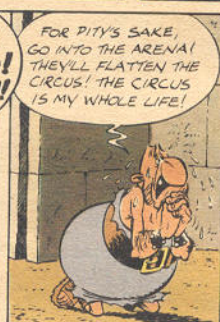
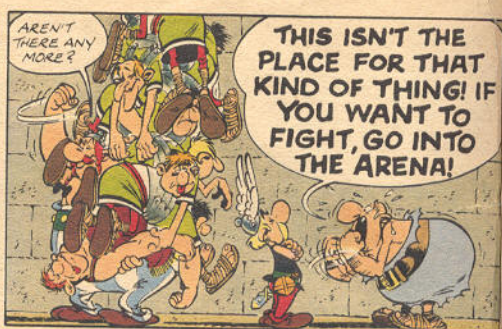
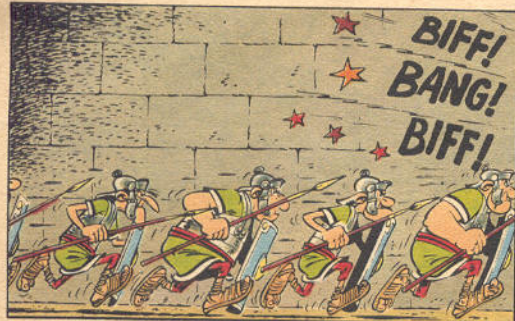
OIL?

DON'T YOU THINK  
MUSTARD WOULD BE  
MORE APPROPRIATE.

THE CIRCUS MAXIMUS IS PACKED WITH THE USUAL ENTHUSIASTIC FIRST-NIGHT, OR IN THIS CASE LAST-NIGHT, AUDIENCE.







**GUARDS!  
GET EVERYBODY  
OUT!**

**EVERYBODY OUT!  
EVERYBODY,  
BY JUPITER!**

**OUT!  
EVERYBODY  
OUT!**

NOT US!  
HE DOESN'T  
MEAN US!

OH, SHUT UP,  
OBELIX!

THAT MIX-UP GAVE US GOOD  
COVER. WE'VE SEEN ENOUGH  
OF THIS PERFORMANCE.  
LET'S FIND A PEACEFUL  
SPOT TO SLEEP.

WHAT A  
GOOD IDEA!

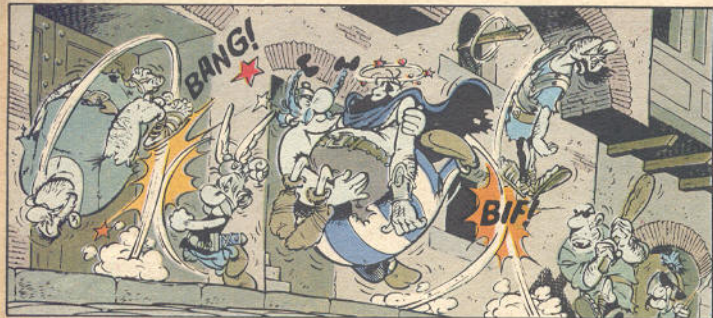
WE SHOULD  
BE ALL RIGHT HERE  
TOMORROW WE'LL  
THINK ABOUT OUR  
NEXT MOVE.

AT NIGHT THE ROMAN STREETS, INADEQUATELY PATROLLED BY THE SEBACIARIA (NIGHT WATCHMEN) ARE THE HUNTING GROUND OF SICARII, EFFRACTORES AND RAPTORES, MURDERERS AND MUGGERS OF ALL KINDS.

BY ALL THAT'S UNHOLY!  
HERE ARE TWO FINE FELLOWS  
SLEEPING OFF THEIR BOOZE!  
LET'S LIGHTEN THEIR  
PURSES!

**DO YOU  
ROMANS  
NEVER SLEEP?!**

**BIF!**



ER... YOU WOULDN'T BE THOSE TWO GAULS EVERYONE IS LOOKING FOR, WOULD YOU?

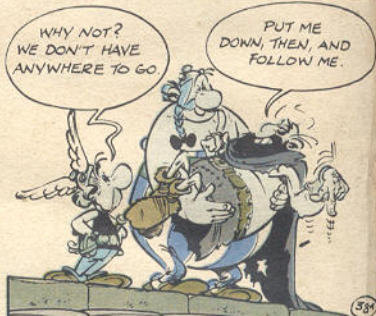


YES, THAT'S US, AND WHO ARE YOU?

HABEASCORPUS, CHIEF OF THE MOST FEARSOME BAND OF CUTTHROATS THE URBS HAS EVER KNOWN.



I HEAR YOU ARE MAGICIANS. YOUR STRENGTH SEEMS TO PROVE IT... WE COULD USE YOU.



WHY NOT? WE DON'T HAVE ANYWHERE TO GO.

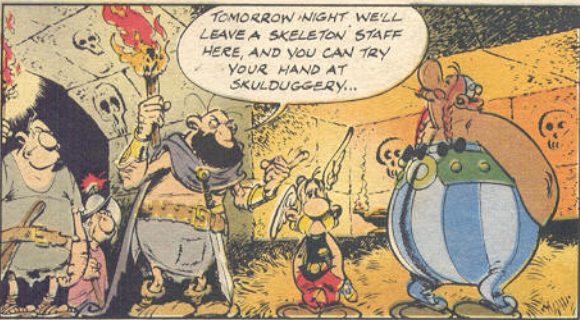
PUT ME DOWN, THEN, AND FOLLOW ME.



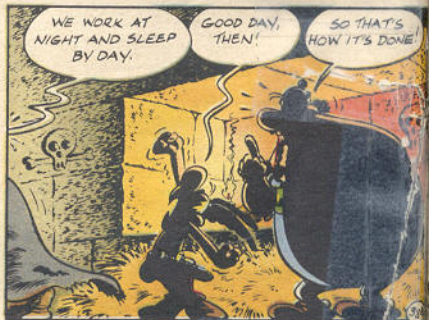
LET'S GET A MOVE I, IT'S NEARLY DAYBREAK.



HERE'S OUR HIDE-OUT: THE CATACOMBS. IT'S QUITE SAFE YOU'LL MAKE OLD BONES DOWN HERE.



TOMORROW NIGHT WE'LL LEAVE A SKELETON STAFF HERE, AND YOU CAN TRY YOUR HAND AT SKULDUGGERY...



WE WORK AT NIGHT AND SLEEP BY DAY.

GOOD DAY, THEN!

SO THAT'S HOW IT'S DONE!



AFTER A PEACEFUL DAY, NIGHT HAS FALLEN ONCE MORE ON THE GREATEST CITY IN THE UNIVERSE, AND SHADY FIGURES CREEP ALONG THE NARROW STREETS.



ROME.

DIDO, DIDO, GIVE ME YOUR ANSWER, DO... HIC!... THERE'S AN OLD MOLA BY THE FLUMEN... HAEC! THE BELLS OF HADES GO TING-A-LING-A-... HOX!!



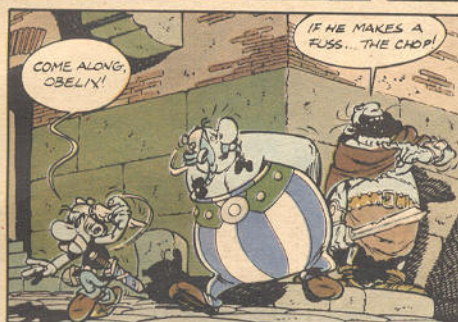
A DRUNK, FULL OF WINE AND GOLD! I'LL LEAVE HIM TO YOU TO SEE HOW YOU PERFORM.

RIGHT!



COME ALONG, OBELIX!

IF HE MAKES A FUSS... THE CHOP!

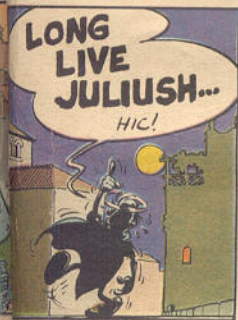


WE'RE NOT REALLY GOING TO GIVE HIM THE CHOP ARE WE, ASTERIX?

OF COURSE NOT! ON THE CONTRARY WE'RE GOING TO SAVE HIM FROM THESE THUGS WATCH OUT, HERE HE COMES...

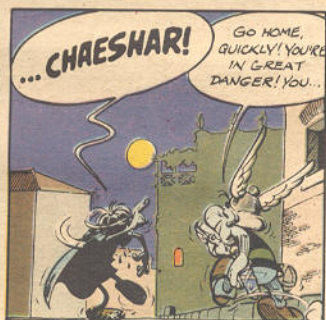


LONG LIVE JULIUSH... HIC!



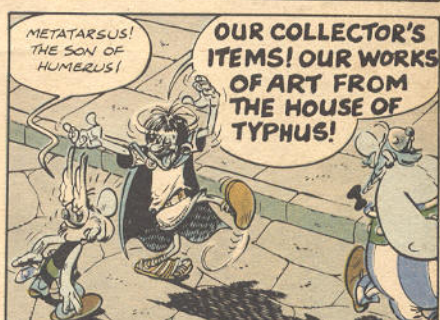
...CHAESHAR!

GO HOME, QUICKLY! YOU'RE IN GREAT DANGER! YOU...



METATARSUS! THE SON OF HUMBERUS!

OUR COLLECTOR'S ITEMS! OUR WORKS OF ART FROM THE HOUSE OF TYPHUS!



QUICK! EAT IT!

NOT ON YOUR LIFE! WE'LL NEVER PART AGAIN! I'LL DRINK TO THAT!



MY COLLECTOR'S ITEMS! MY OWN LITTLE WORKS OF ART! HIC!

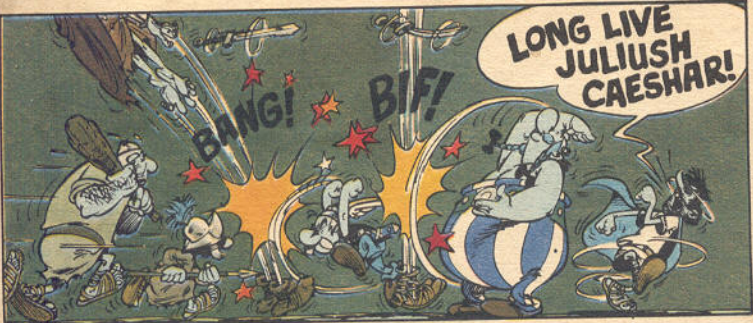
WELL HOW'S IT GOING? HE'LL ATTRACT THE SEBACIARA WITH ALL THAT ROW!



HE'S A FRIEND NOBODY'S GOING TO HARM HIM!

WE'LL SOON SEE ABOUT THAT!





**LONG LIVE JULIUS CAESHAR!**



SOON AFTERWARDS...  
RIGHT OFF YOU GO HOME, NOW. WHY DID YOU GET YOURSELF INTO SUCH A STATE, ANYWAY?

TO CELEBRATE THE RETURN OF JULIUS SOOS... ER... JULIUS CAESAR!



**JULIUS CAESAR?**

HE HAS RETURNED VICTORIOUS FROM HIS CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE PIRATES... TOMORROW THERE'S TO BE A TRIUMPH IN THE STREETS OF ROME!



**ARE YOU SURE?**

SURE I'M SURE! GOLDENDELICIOUS TOLD ME... HE'S GOT HIS EAR TO THE GROUND, HAS OLD GOLDENDE... GOLDENDEWHATISNAME.

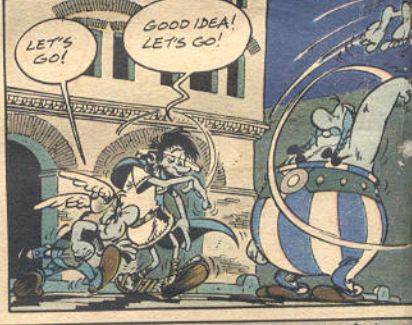


AFTER HE DENOUNCED YOU, THEY MADE HIM PERSONAL SLAVE TO JULIUS CAESAR AS A REWARD!

AH! AND WHERE IS GOLDENDELICIOUS NOW?

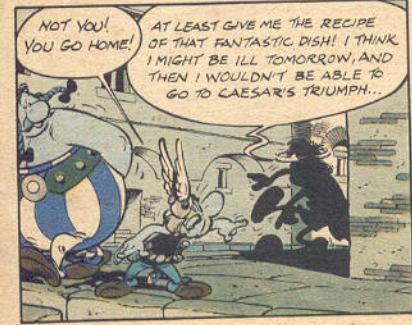


HE STAYED ON IN THAT BAR OVER THERE, BUT WATCH OUT, HE'S AS-SO-LUTE-LY BLOTTO!



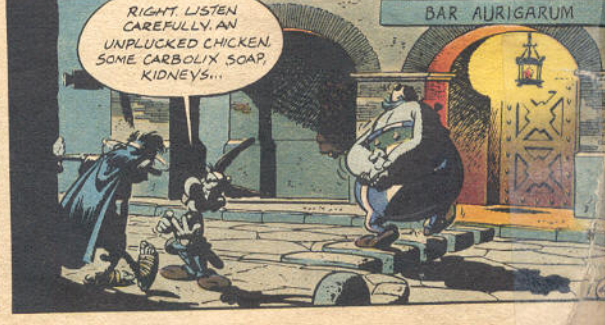
LET'S GO!

GOOD IDEA! LET'S GO!



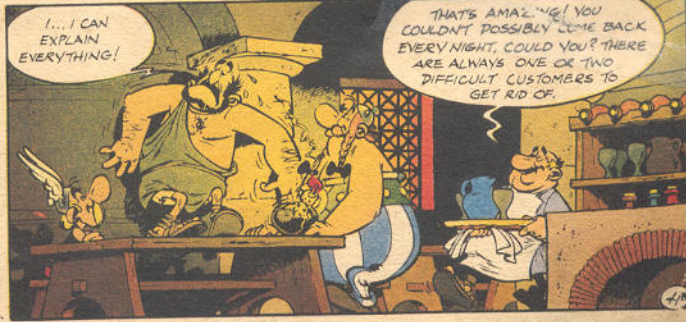
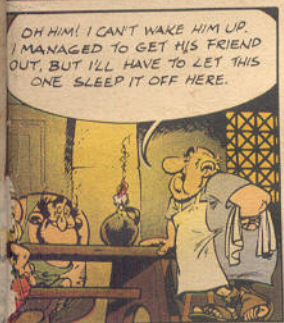
NOT YOU! YOU GO HOME!

AT LEAST GIVE ME THE RECIPE OF THAT FANTASTIC DISH! I THINK I MIGHT BE ILL TOMORROW, AND THEN I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO GO TO CAESAR'S TRIUMPH...



RIGHT LISTEN CAREFULLY, AN UNPLUCKED CHICKEN, SOME CARBOLIX SOAP, KIDNEYS...

BAR AURIGARUM



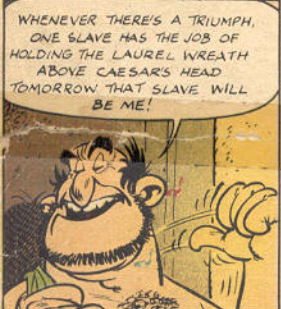
I WAS AFRAID YOU'D TAKE MY PLACE. THAT'S WHY I DENOUNCED YOU, BUT I'M VERY SORRY YES, I REALLY AM, VERY SORRY! YOU DON'T KNOW HOW SORRY I AM!

I HEAR YOU ARE VERY CLOSE TO CAESAR NOW?



NOT HALF! TOMORROW I SHALL RIDE IN HIS CHARIOT AT HIS TRIUMPH!

IN HIS CHARIOT?



WHENEVER THERE'S A TRIUMPH, ONE SLAVE HAS THE JOB OF HOLDING THE LAUREL WREATH ABOVE CAESAR'S HEAD TOMORROW THAT SLAVE WILL BE ME!



**CAESAR'S LAUREL WREATH! THAT'S WONDERFUL, BY TOUTATIS!**



YOU'RE TELLING ME! FOR A SLAVE IT'S THE CROWNING GLORY! NOW I'M A COLLECTOR'S ITEM TOO!

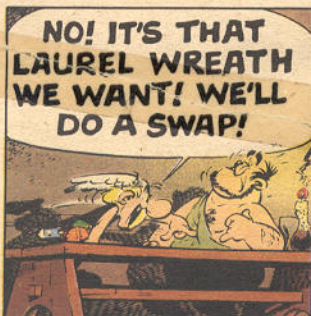
LANDLORD, DO YOU HAVE ANY BAY LEAVES?

NO, BUT I'VE GOT SOME PARSLEY.



THAT'LL DO. BRING IT HERE, QUICK!

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO TAKE MY PLACE, ARE YOU?



**NO! IT'S THAT LAUREL WREATH WE WANT! WE'LL DO A SWAP!**

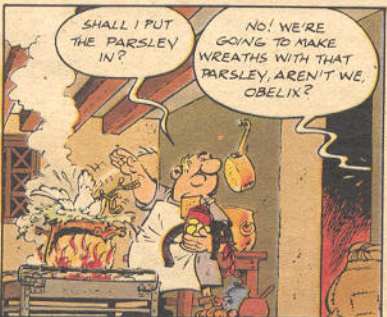


**I'M GOING TO TELL YOU WHAT TO DO TOMORROW. IF YOU WANT TO SEE TOMORROW, THAT IS...**

... I DON'T FEEL TOO GOOD... I'VE HAD A DROP TOO MUCH... NOW I THINK ABOUT IT, I DON'T KNOW THAT I'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE THE TRIUMPH TOMORROW.

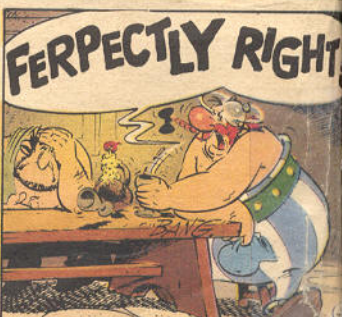


LANDLORD! I'VE GOT UP AN UNPLUCKED CHICKEN, SOME CARBOLIX SOAP JAM, BLACK PEPPERCORNS, SALT KIDNEYS, FIGS, HONEY, BLACK PUDDING, POMEGRANATE SEEDS, EGGS AND RED PEPPERS!



SHALL I PUT THE PARSLEY IN?

NO! WE'RE GOING TO MAKE WREATHS WITH THAT PARSLEY, AREN'T WE, OBELIX?



**PERFECTLY RIGHT!**

DAWN, IN A NARROW STREET NEAR  
CESAR'S PALACE...

HERE HE COMES!

YOUR POTION IS  
ABSOLUTELY  
MARVELOUS!

TAKE IT—  
QUICK!

**CAESAR'S  
LAUREL  
WREATH!**

DON'T FORGET THE PARSLEY  
WREATH!

IT'S A DEAL!  
I'LL NEVER  
HEAR FROM  
YOU AGAIN?

**I PROMISE YOU  
THAT, BY TOUTATIS!**

IT'S QUITE A GOOD TRIUMPH, AS TRIUMPHS GO...  
THE BOOTY ISN'T ANYTHING SPECIAL, BUT THE  
REASONS ARE PICTURESQUE...

SO THAT'S WHAT YOU  
MEANT WHEN YOU SAID  
YOU'D LEAD US TO A  
GREAT TRIUMPH!

TANTANTARA!  
PARD!

TWEET  
TWEET!

**LONG LIVE  
JULIUS CAESAR!**

NO ONE? WELL, HARDLY ANYONE... FOR  
NOTHING CAN BE HIDDEN FROM THAT  
GREAT MAN AMONG GREAT MEN, THAT  
WOLF SON OF THE ROMAN SHE-WOLF...

**LONG LIVE  
CAESAR!  
CAESAR!  
CAESAR!**

THAT'S FUNNY... I FEEL LIKE  
A PIECE OF FISH!

WELL, HOMEOPATHIX,  
HOW DO YOU LIKE  
THE TASTE OF  
CAESAR'S LAURELS?



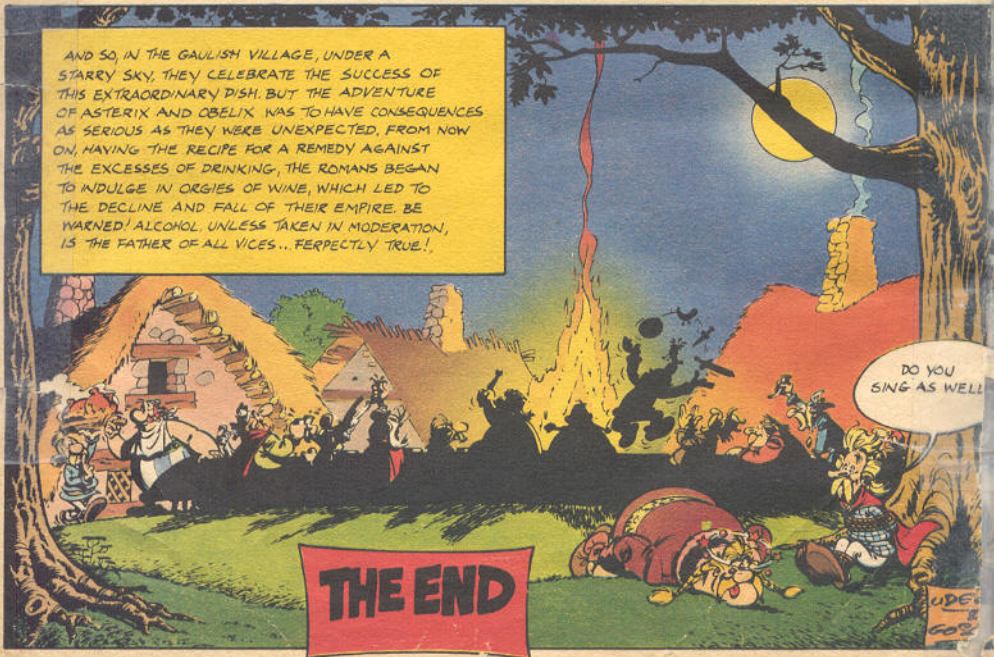
YOU MAY BE RICH, BUT  
I BET YOU NEVER EAT  
ANYTHING LIKE THAT IN  
YOUR HOUSE!



TRUE... IT'S A BIT  
OVERCOOKED, AND IT WASN'T A  
PRIME CUT OF MEAT...



AND SO, IN THE GAULISH VILLAGE, UNDER A  
STARRY SKY, THEY CELEBRATE THE SUCCESS OF  
THIS EXTRAORDINARY DISH. BUT THE ADVENTURE  
OF ASTERIX AND OBELIX WAS TO HAVE CONSEQUENCES  
AS SERIOUS AS THEY WERE UNEXPECTED. FROM NOW  
ON, HAVING THE RECIPE FOR A REMEDY AGAINST  
THE EXCESSES OF DRINKING, THE ROMANS BEGAN  
TO INDULGE IN ORGIES OF WINE, WHICH LED TO  
THE DECLINE AND FALL OF THEIR EMPIRE. BE  
WARNED! ALCOHOL, UNLESS TAKEN IN MODERATION,  
IS THE FATHER OF ALL VICES... PERFECTLY TRUE!



DO YOU  
SING AS WELL

**THE END**