

Asterix and the Great Crossing



by GOSCINNY and UDERZO



a Hodder Dargaud
presentation

UDERZO

**WOOF!
WOOF!**

DOWN, HUNTINGSEASSEN!
GØ TØ BYE-BYES,
LITTLE DØGGY!

FUNNY SORT ØF IDEA,
TAKING THAT DØG ALONG!
FUNNY SORT ØF IDEA
TAKING THIS VØYAGE
ANY WAY! YOU'RE A
VISIONÄRY, HERENDETHELESSEN!

YOU WAIT ÅND SEE!
YOU'LL ÅLL FIND ØUT I'M
RIGHT!
**ÅND NOW
SHUT UP!**

ER ... HERENDETHELESSEN...
WOULD THAT WHITE THING
ØVER TØ STÅRBØÅRD
BE ÅN ICEBERG,
BY ÅNY CHÅNCE Ø?

**ØVER TØ
PØRT JUST Å
WHISKER!**

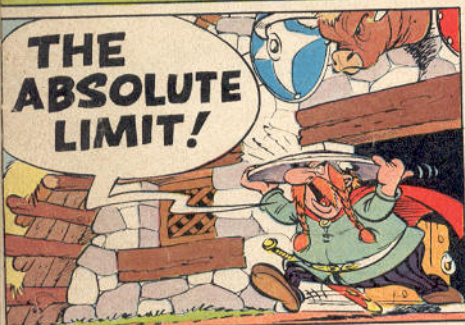
I SEE ...

(BUT LET US LEAVE
THESE ICY SEAS,
VEILED IN DENSE,
IMPENETRABLE
MISTS ...)

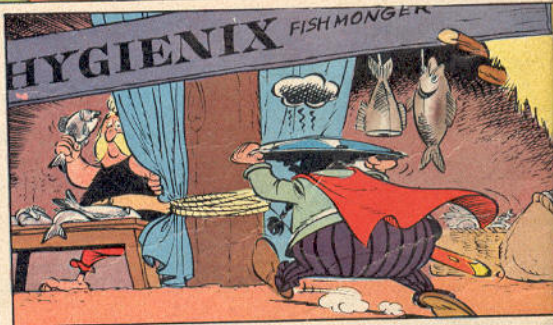
... AND MAKE FOR A LITTLE GAULISH VILLAGE BASKING IN THE SUN.

THIS IS THE LIMIT!

UNHYGIENIX FISHMONGER



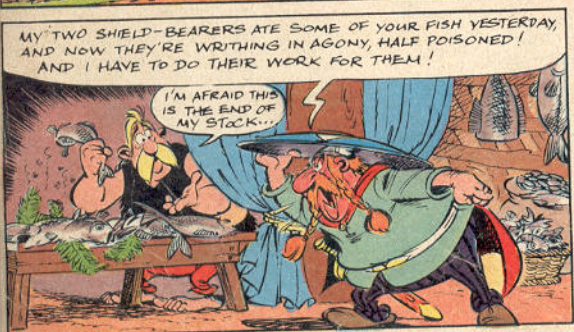
THE ABSOLUTE LIMIT!



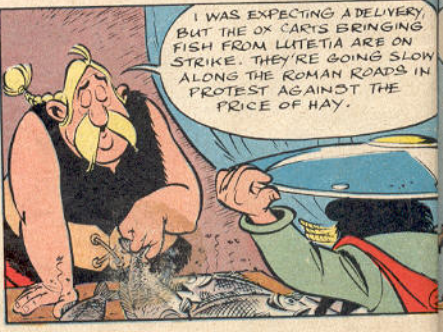
HYGIENIX FISHMONGER

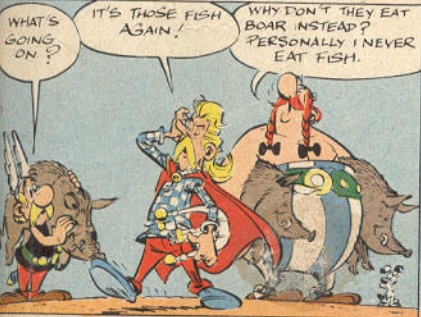
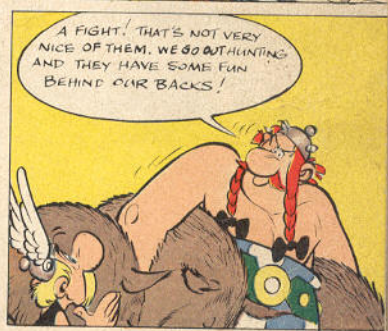
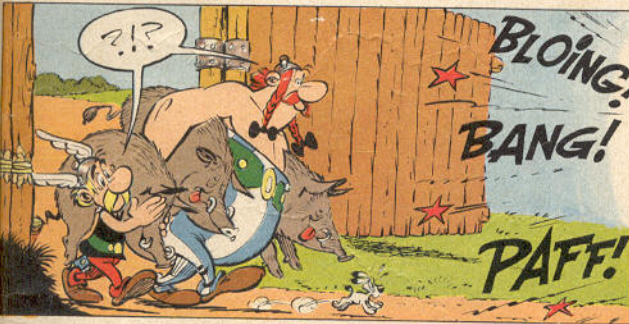
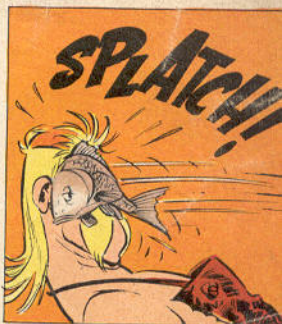
MY TWO SHIELD-BEARERS ATE SOME OF YOUR FISH YESTERDAY, AND NOW THEY'RE WRITHING IN AGONY, HALF POISONED! AND I HAVE TO DO THEIR WORK FOR THEM!

I'M AFRAID THIS IS THE END OF MY STOCK...



I WAS EXPECTING A DELIVERY BUT THE OX CARRIERS BRINGING FISH FROM LUTETIA ARE ON STRIKE. THEY'RE GOING SLOW ALONG THE ROMAN ROADS IN PROTEST AGAINST THE PRICE OF HAY.

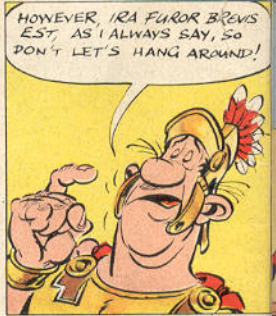




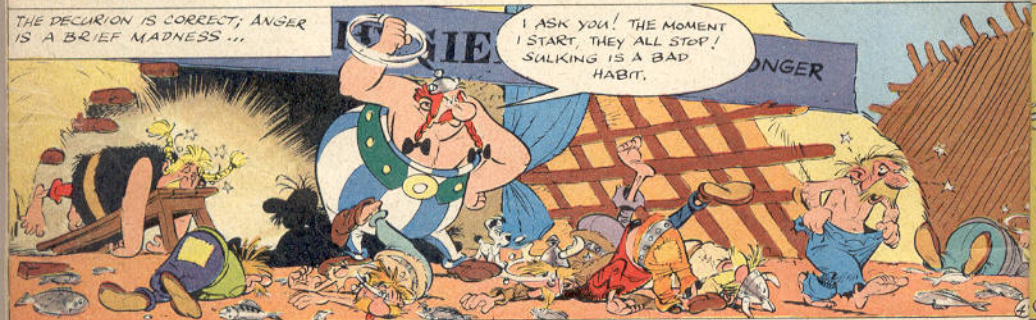


ISN'T IT NICE WHEN THEY FIGHT EACH OTHER?

DEAD RIGHT! IT IS!

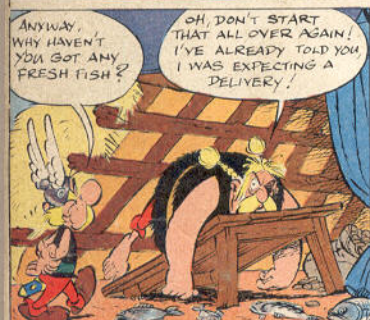


HOWEVER, IRA FUROR BREVIS EST. AS I ALWAYS SAY, SO DON'T LET'S HANG AROUND!



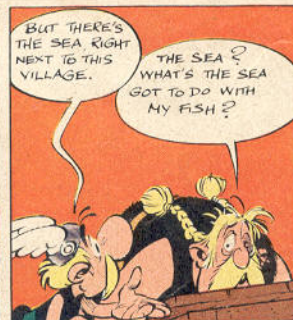
THE DECURION IS CORRECT; ANGER IS A BRIEF MADNESS ...

I ASK YOU! THE MOMENT I START, THEY ALL STOP! SULKING IS A BAD HABIT.



ANYWAY, WHY HAVEN'T YOU GOT ANY FRESH FISH?

OH, DON'T START THAT ALL OVER AGAIN! I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU I WAS EXPECTING A DELIVERY!



BUT THERE'S THE SEA RIGHT NEXT TO THIS VILLAGE.

THE SEA? WHAT'S THE SEA GOT TO DO WITH MY FISH?



ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS GO FISHING FOR FISH IN THESEA.

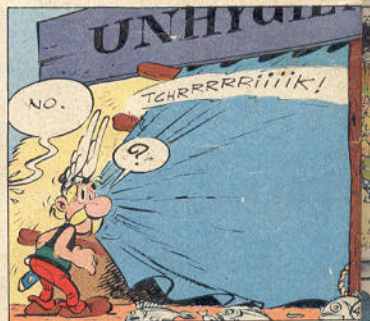
LET ME TELL YOU, MY GOOD SIR, I SELL TOP QUALITY FISH FROM LUTETIA. MY CUSTOMERS TRUST ME!



I GET MY FISH FROM THE BEST WHOLESALERS! I'M NOT SELLING ANY OLD FISH JUST OUT OF THE WATER! YOU NEVER KNOW WHERE THEY'VE BEEN!



IF YOU WANT FRESH FISH YOU'LL HAVE TO WAIT FOR IT!



NO.

Tchrrrrriiik!

NO, I CAN'T WAIT.

UNHYGIEN
FISHMONGER

I NEED A BIT OF REASONABLY FRESH FISH TO MAKE MY MAGIC POTION. THERE'S HARDLY ANY LEFT.

SO IN THE INTERESTS OF SECURITY, SOMEONE HAS TO GO FISHING.

WE'LL GO FISHING.

OOH YES, WE'LL GO, WON'T WE DOGMATIX?

I FELT SURE YOU WOULD, BOYS!

MY FISHING BOATS ON THE BEACH, THE ONE I USED TO USE AS A BOY.

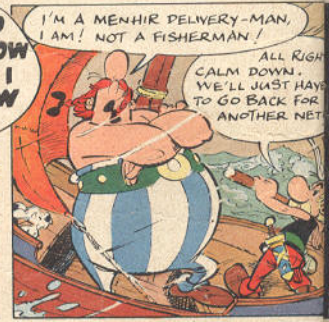
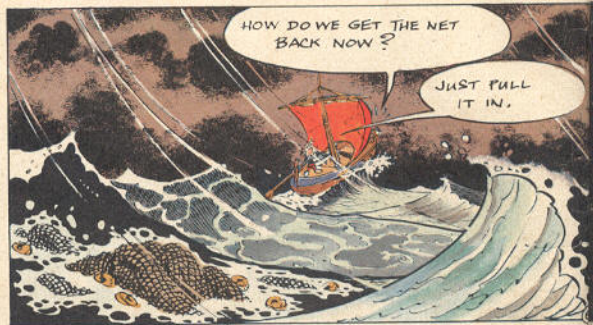
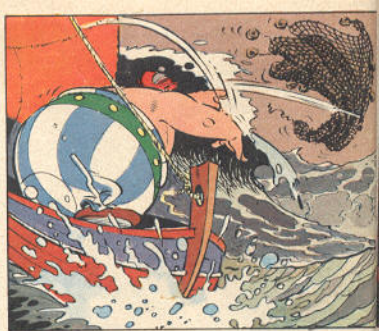
YOU OUGHT TO WAIT FOR A BRIGHT PERIOD... I DON'T LIKE THE LOOK OF THE SKY!

OH, WELL, SO LONG AS IT DOESN'T FALL ON OUR HEADS!

TAKE A DROP OF MAGIC POTION. YOU NEVER KNOW!

IS THAT REALLY NECESSARY? WE'RE NOT GOING FAR, AND THERE'S NO ONE ELSE OUT THERE.

MAY BELENOS PROTECT YOU!





LET'S KEEP CALM, OBELIX. THIS BOAT SEEMS VERY SEAWORTHY; PERHAPS THE WIND WILL HAVE DIED DOWN TOMORROW. GOOD NIGHT.

GOOD NIGHT, ASTERIX / GOOD NIGHT, DOGMATIX!

WOOF!

ZZZZ

ZZZZ

ZZZ...SNIFF?

GRRRRRR!

ASTERIX! DOGMATIX HAS PICKED UP A SCENT!

TELL HIM TO GO TO SLEEP. THERE'S NOTHING AROUND HERE EXCEPT US.

GRRRØØÄÄRRR!

DID YOU HEAR THAT, ASTERIX?

YES...

PERHAPS IT'S A MONSTER! WE'VE COME TO THE EDGE OF THE SEA, WHERE CREATURES FROM THE DEPTHS OF HELL...

TAKE IT EASY, OBELIX!!!

NEAR BY ...

BY ALL THE GODS! VOICES! WHAT HAVE YOU GOT US INTO, HERENDETHELESSEN?

STEADY, STEPTÖANSSEN! PERHAPS IT'S THE SIRENS TRYING TO LURE US WITH THEIR MELDIOUS SONG. LET'S STOP UP OUR EARS!

WE'LL NEVER GET OUT OF THIS. HERENDETHELESSEN ... HERENDETHELESSEN?

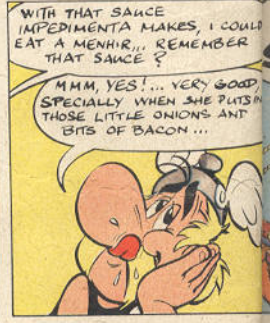
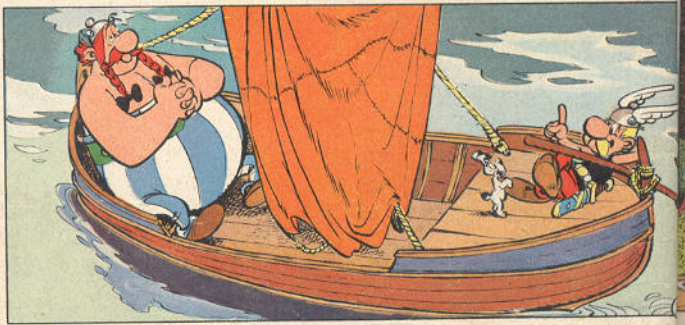
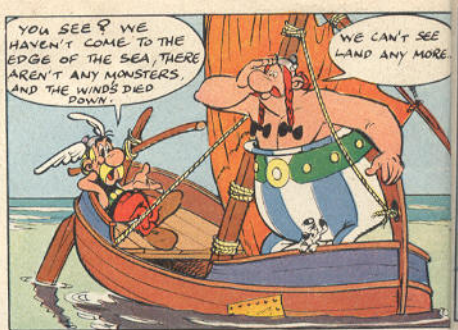
HERENDETHELESSEN!!!

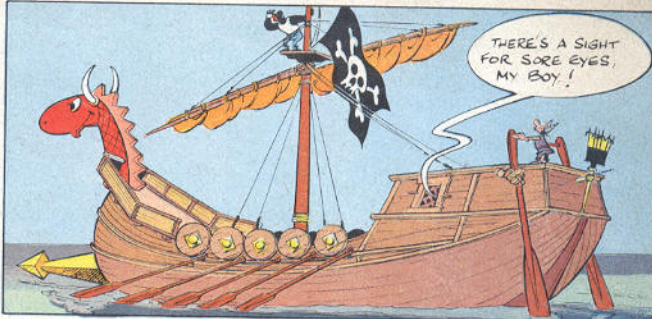
WHAT?

OH! I THOUGHT YOU'D LEFT.

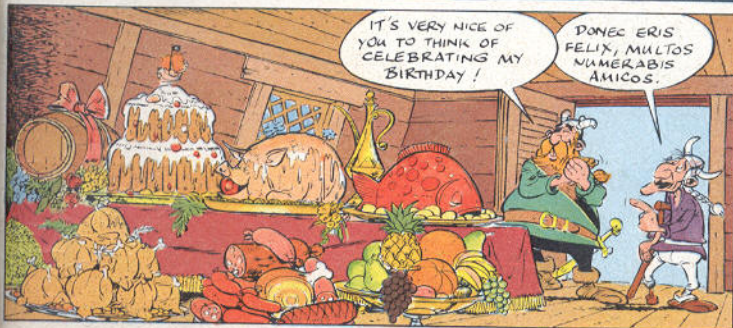
STOP UP YOUR EARS AND SHUT UP!!!

BUT EVEN THE DARKEST NIGHTS COME TO AN END, AND THE SUN RISES FAR AWAY FROM THESE MYSTERIOUS INCIDENTS...



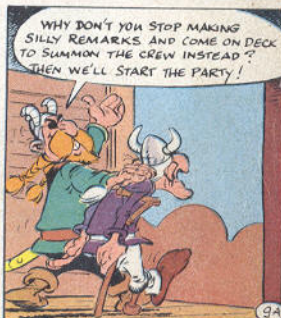


THERE'S A SIGHT FOR SORE EYES, MY BOY!

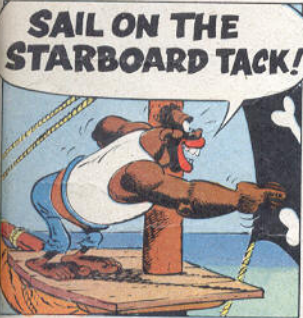


IT'S VERY NICE OF YOU TO THINK OF CELEBRATING MY BIRTHDAY!

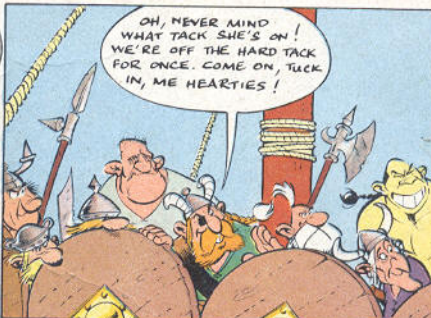
DONEC ERIS FELIX, MULTOS NUMERABIS AMICOS.



WHY DON'T YOU STOP MAKING SILLY REMARKS, AND COME ON DECK TO SUMMON THE CREW INSTEAD? THEN WE'LL START THE PARTY!



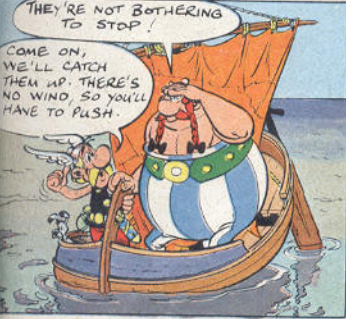
SAIL ON THE STARBOARD TACK!



OH, NEVER MIND WHAT TACK SHE'S ON! WE'RE OFF THE HARD TACK FOR ONCE. COME ON, TUCK IN, ME HEARTIES!

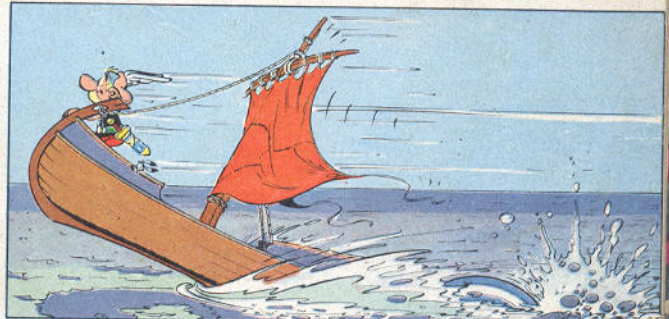


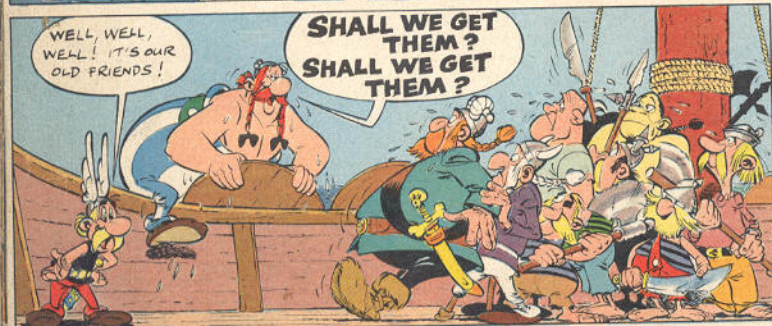
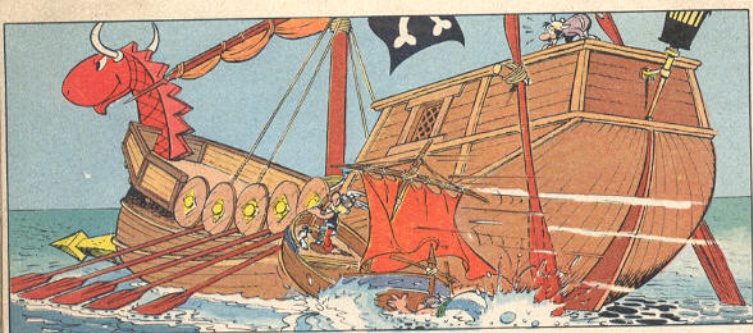
HELP! LOOK! THAT REALLY TAKES THE BISCUIT! IT'S THEM!



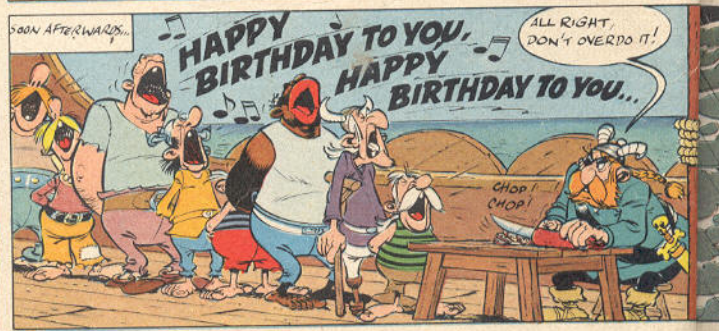
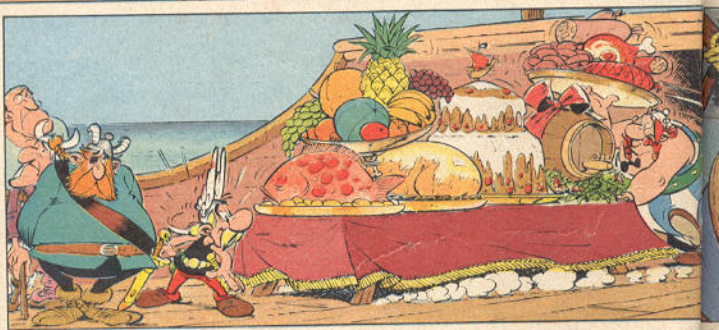
THEY'RE NOT BOTHERING TO STOP!

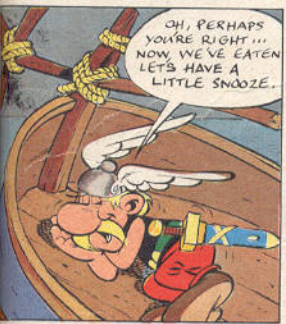
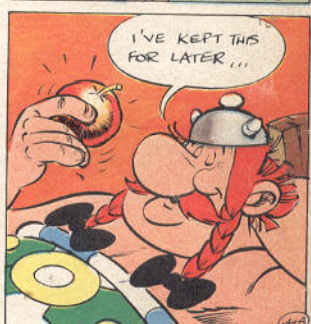
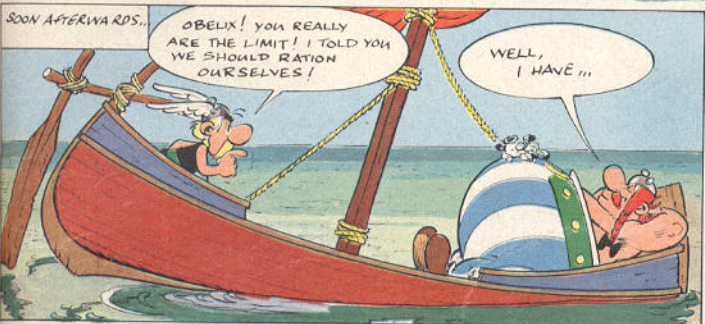
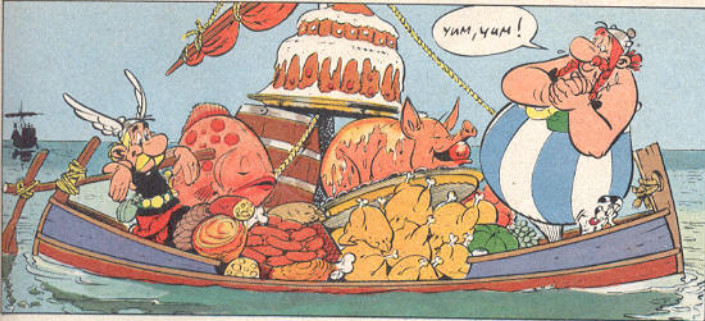
COME ON, WE'LL CATCH THEM UP. THERE'S NO WIND, SO YOU'LL HAVE TO PUSH.





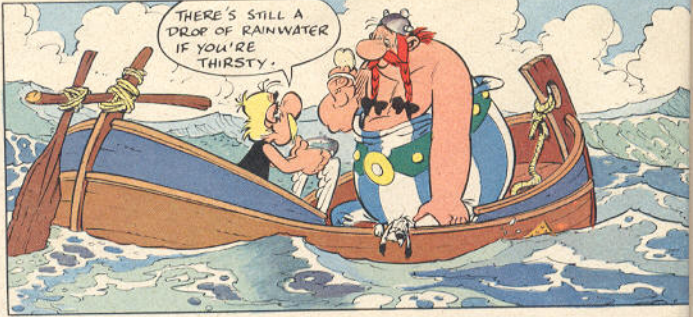
JUST A MOMENT. HOW ABOUT A CHANGE IN THE SCRIPT? IT'S MY BIRTHDAY TODAY... YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO SPOIL MY BIRTHDAY, WOULD YOU? JUST TELL ME WHAT YOU WANT AND THEN GO AWAY THIS ONCE WITHOUT SINKING ANYTHING.





TIME PASSES !!!

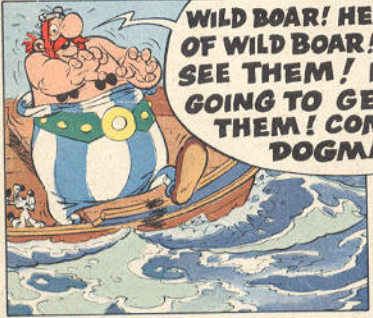
HERE'S TODAY'S RATION, OBELIX. CHEW IT WELL.



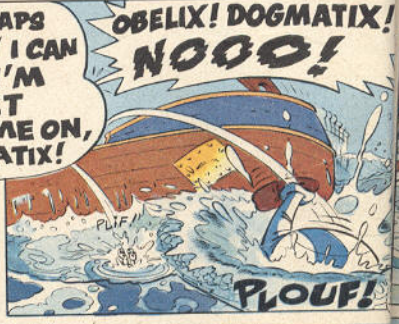
THERE'S STILL A DROP OF RAINWATER IF YOU'RE THIRSTY.



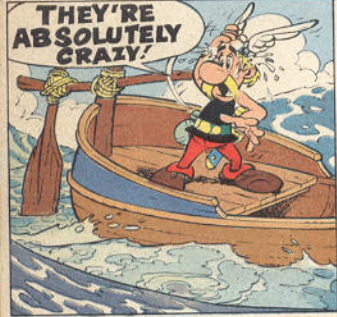
DOGMATIX! YOU GREEDY DOG! YOU'VE SWALLOWED YOUR RATION IN ONE GULP!



WILD BOAR! HEAPS OF WILD BOAR! I CAN SEE THEM! I'M GOING TO GET THEM! COME ON, DOGMATIX!



OBELIX! DOGMATIX! NOOO!

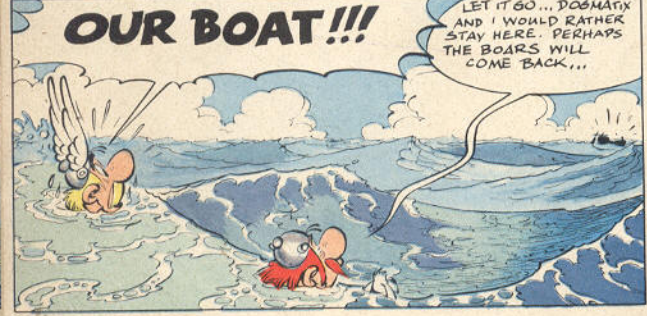


THEY'RE ABSOLUTELY CRAZY!



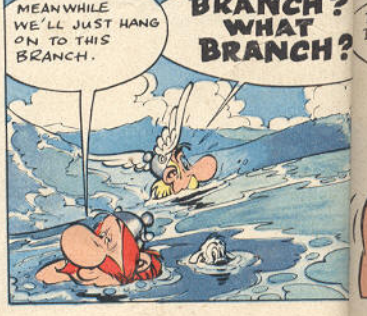
DON'T KNOW WHAT CAME OVER ME... I WAS SEEING BOARS; I WAS EVEN SEEING ROMANS...

LET'S GET BACK ON BOARD OUR...



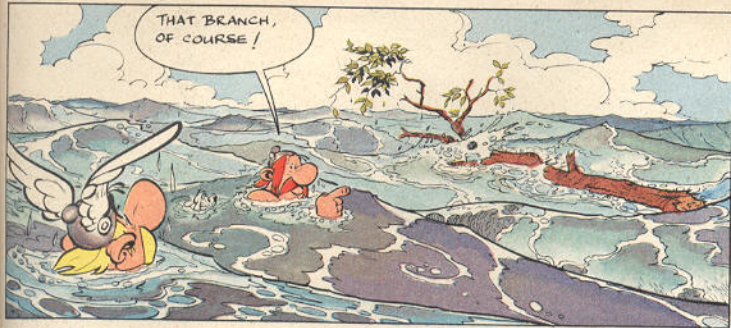
OUR BOAT!!!

LET IT GO... DOGMATIX AND I WOULD RATHER STAY HERE. PERHAPS THE BOARS WILL COME BACK...



MEANWHILE WE'LL JUST HANG ON TO THIS BRANCH.

BRANCH? WHAT BRANCH?



THAT BRANCH, OF COURSE!



IF THERE'S A BRANCH AROUND WE CAN'T BE FAR FROM LAND!



THERE! LOOK!

GOODY! WE'RE HOME AGAIN!



YOU KNOW SOMETHING? I'M NOT LOOKING FORWARD TO HEARING OUR BARD SING!

DON'T OVERDO IT...



YOOHOO!
WE'RE BACK, BOYS,
WE'RE BACK!

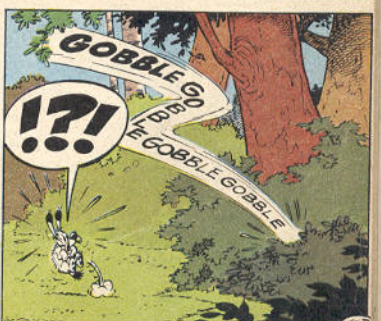


SHUT UP, I WANT TO GO CAREFULLY

WHAT FOR? DO YOU THINK THEY'LL BE CROSS WITH US FOR NOT BRINGING ANY FISH HOME?

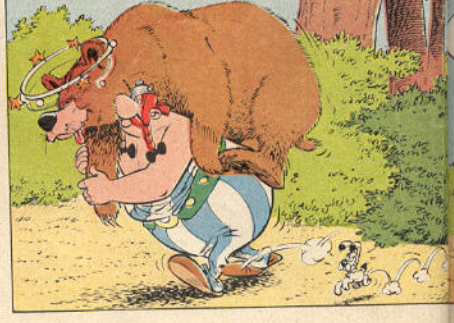
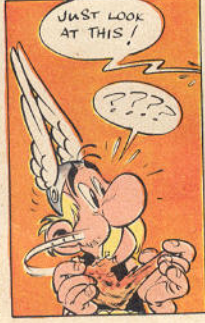
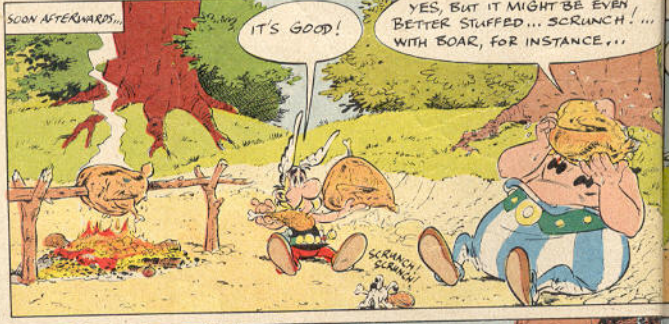
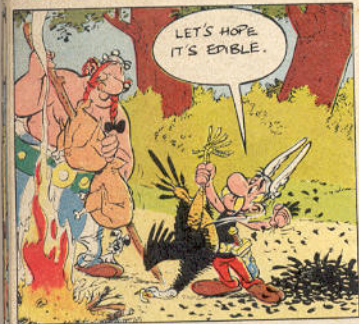
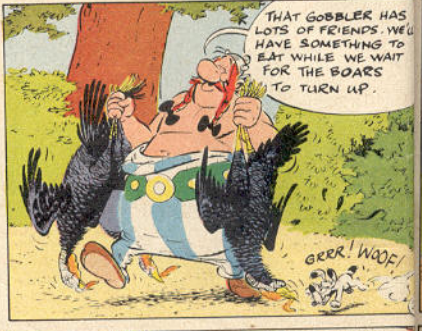
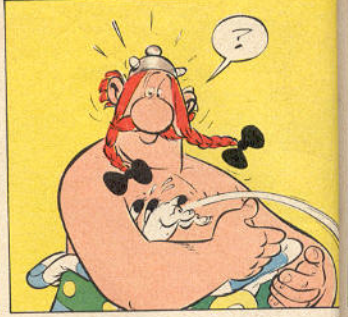
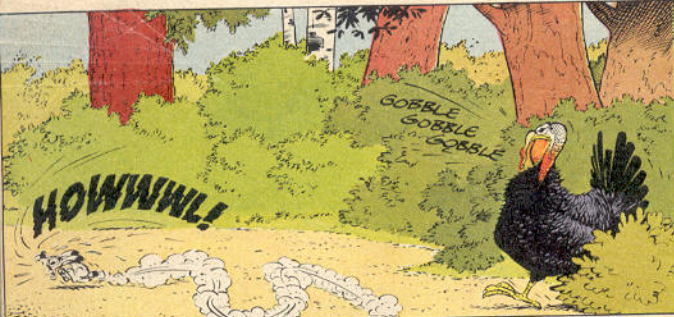


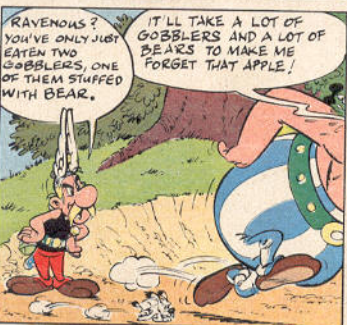
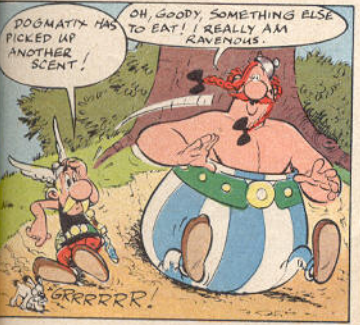
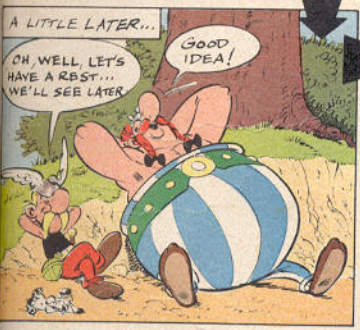
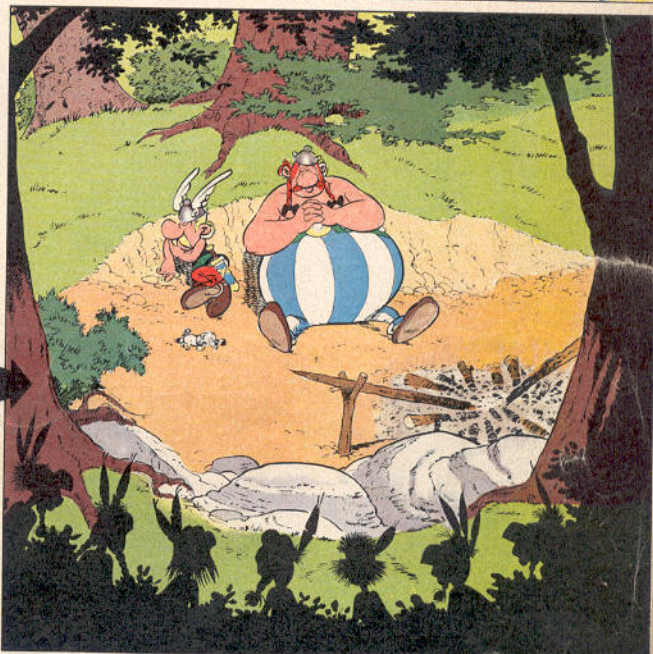
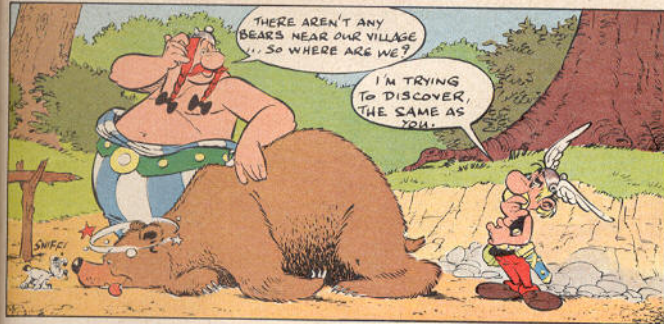
LET'S HAVE A FEW BOARDS FOR A START. DOSMATIX HAS PICKED UP A SCENT.

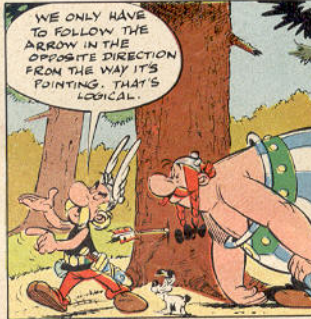
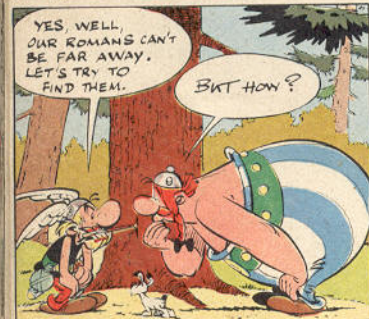
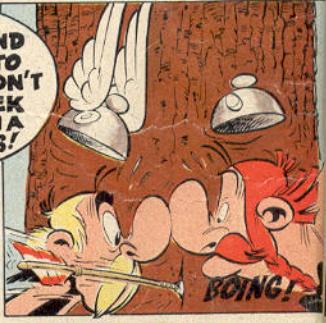
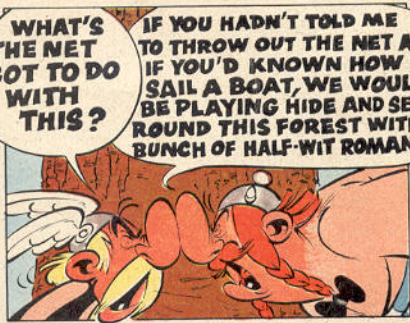
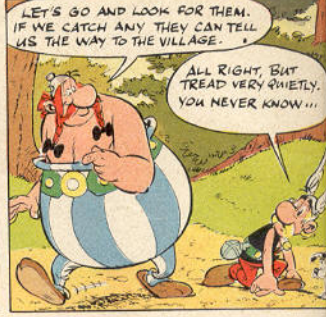
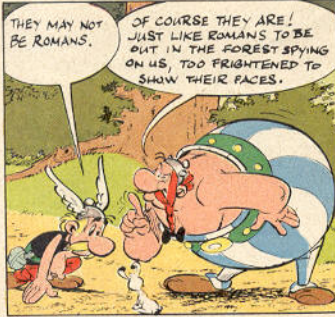
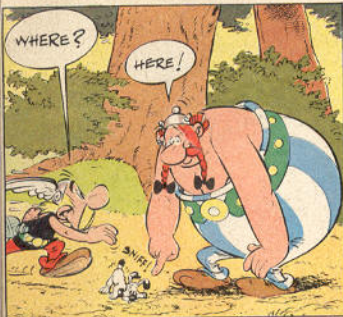


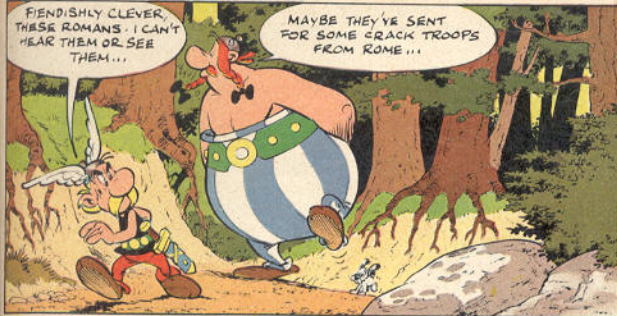
GOBBLE GOBBLE GOBBLE
GOBBLE GOBBLE GOBBLE

!?!







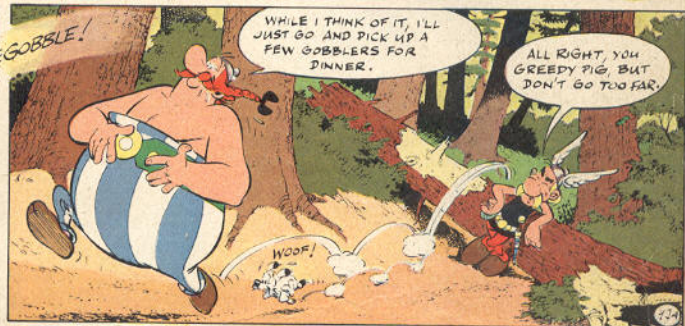


FIENDISHLY CLEVER, THESE ROMANS. I CAN'T HEAR THEM OR SEE THEM...

MAYBE THEY'VE SENT FOR SOME GRACK TROOPS FROM ROME...



GOBBLE GOBBLE GOBBLE!



WHILE I THINK OF IT, I'LL JUST GO AND PICK UP A FEW GOBBERS FOR DINNER.

ALL RIGHT, YOU GREEDY PIG, BUT DON'T GO TOO FAR.



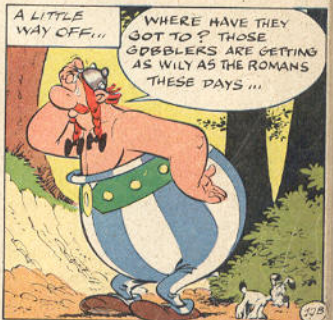
IT'S LIKE A NEW WORLD...



A PLACE WHERE SOMETHING MIGHT HAPPEN TO YOU ANY MOMENT...

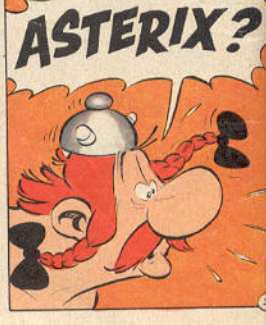
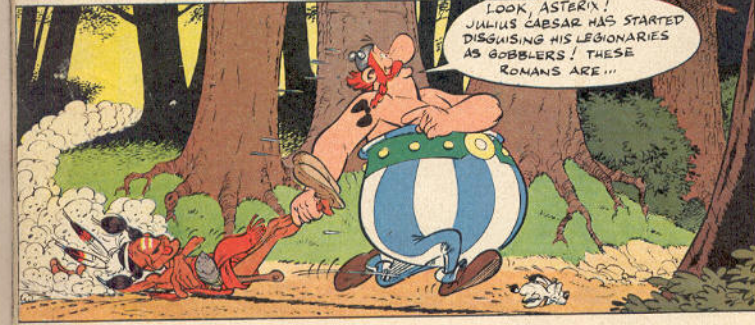
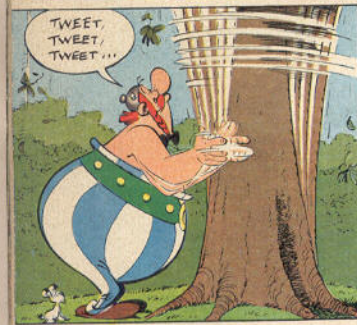
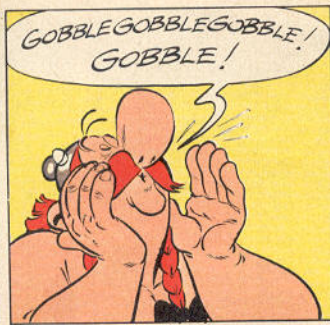
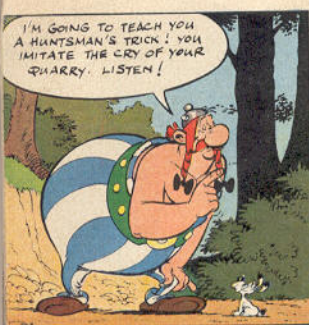


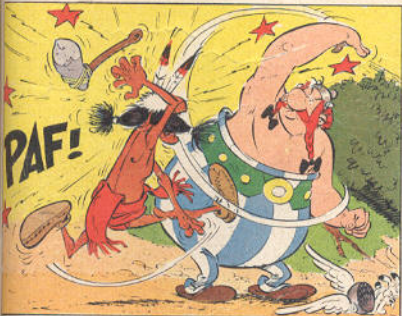
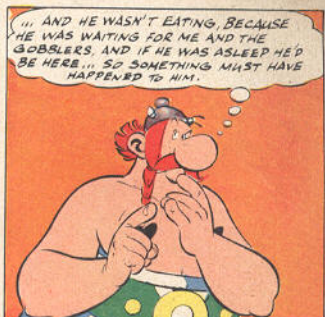
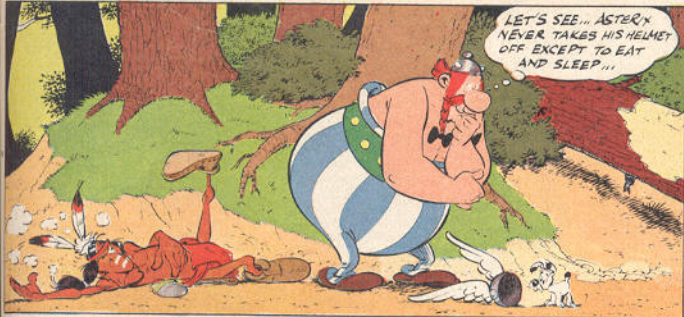
CLONK!



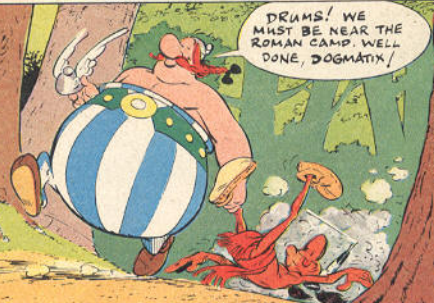
A LITTLE WAY OFF...

WHERE HAVE THEY GOT TO? THOSE GOBBERS ARE GETTING AS WILY AS THE ROMANS THESE DAYS...





**TOMTOM!
TOMTOM!
TOMTOM!**



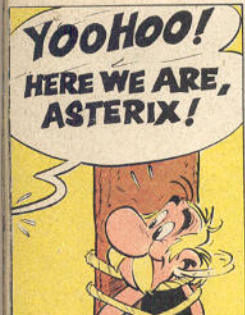
DRUMS! WE MUST BE NEAR THE ROMAN CAMP. WELL DONE, DOGMATIX!



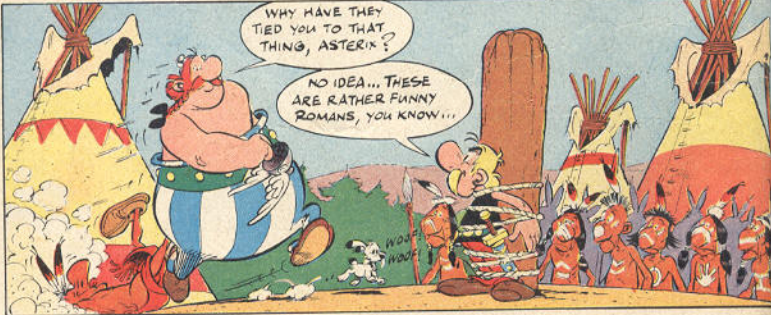
FUNNY SORT OF CAMP!



**TOMTOMTOM!
TOM!**



**YOOHOO!
HERE WE ARE,
ASTERIX!**



WHY HAVE THEY TIED YOU TO THAT THING, ASTERIX?

NO IDEA... THESE ARE RATHER FUNNY ROMANS, YOU KNOW...



PROBABLY MERCENARIES ... NUMIDIANS OR GREEKS OR THRACIANS ...

How!

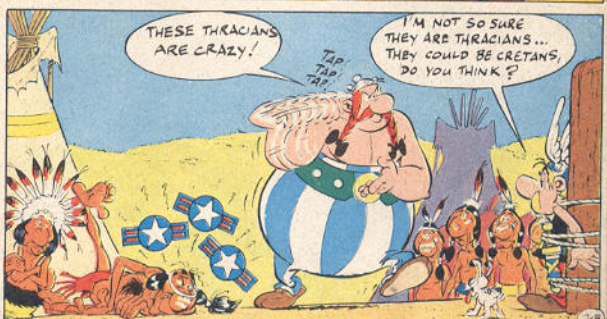
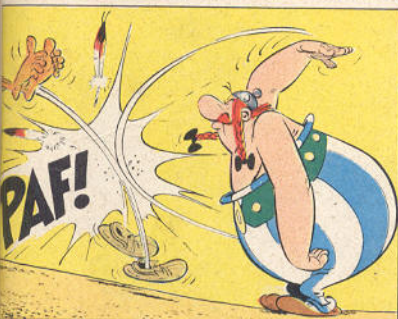
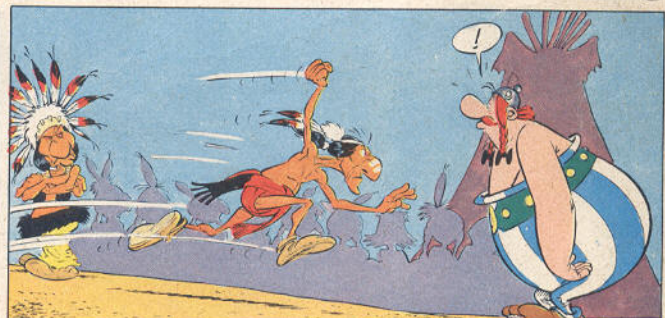
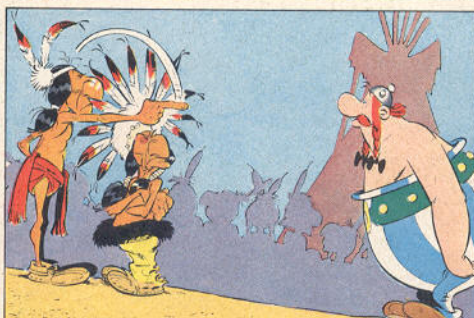


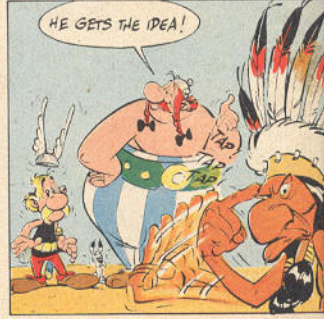
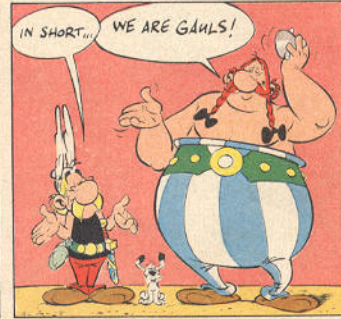
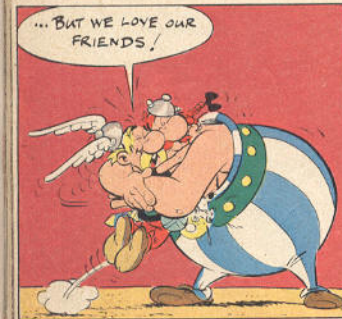
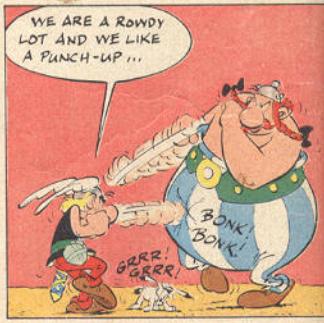
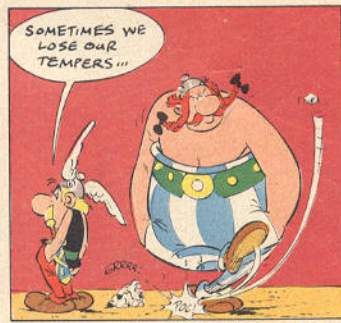
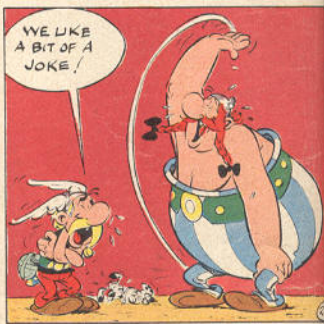
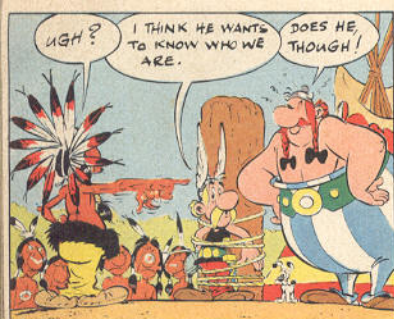
THAT MUST BE THEIR CENTURION. I'LL HAVE A WORD WITH HIM.

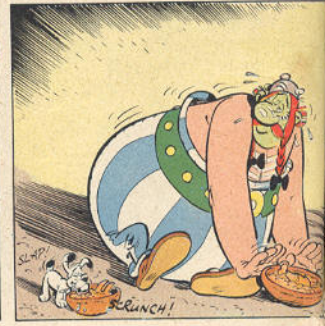
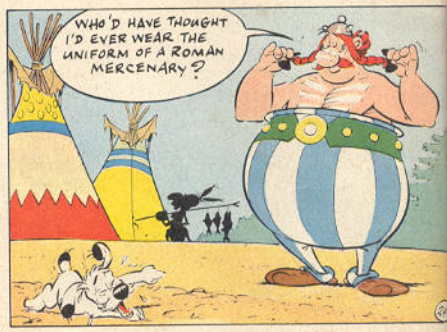
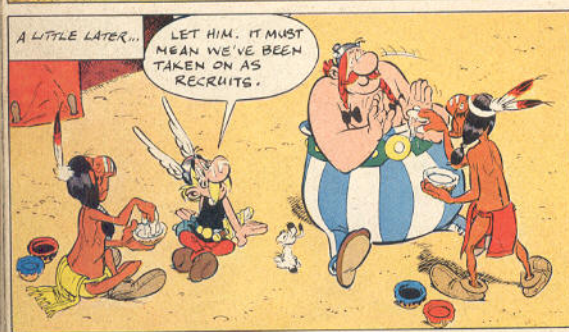


YOU! WHY HAVE YOU TIED MY FRIEND UP? IS IT AN OLD THRACIAN CUSTOM OR SOMETHING?

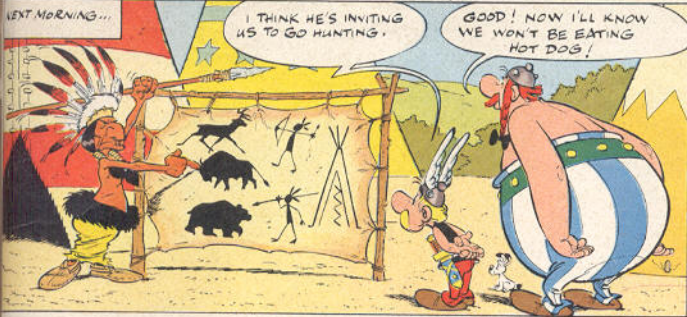
???





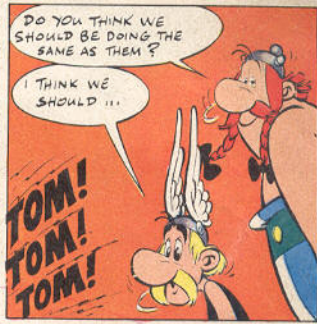


NEXT MORNING...



I THINK HE'S INVITING US TO GO HUNTING!

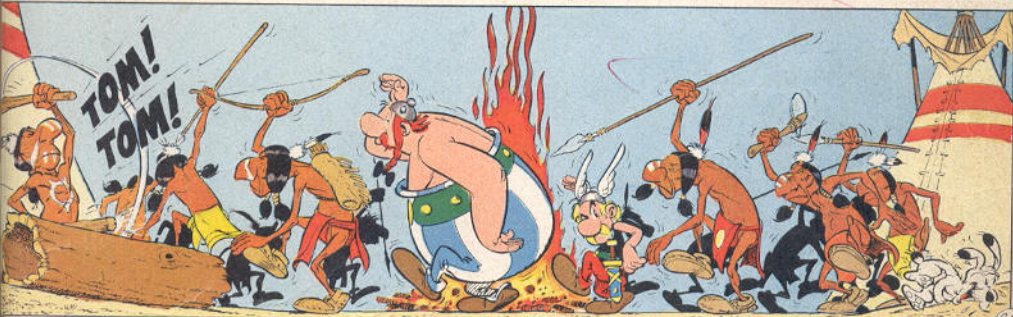
GOOD! NOW I'LL KNOW WE WON'T BE EATING HOT DOGS!



DO YOU THINK WE SHOULD BE DOING THE SAME AS THEM?

I THINK WE SHOULD ...

**TOM!
TOM!
TOM!**



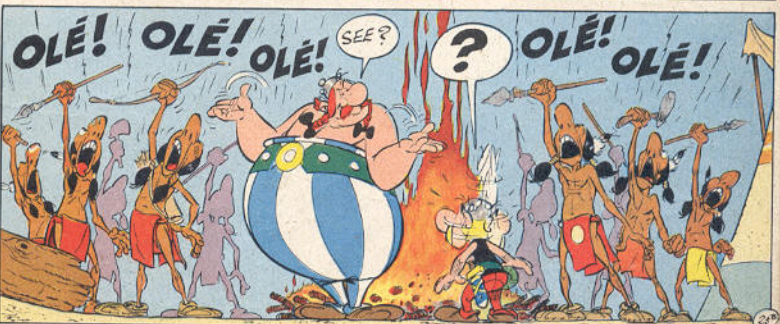
I'VE GOT IT! I SEE NOW! THEY'RE IBERIANS! IBERIANS LOVE DANCING!



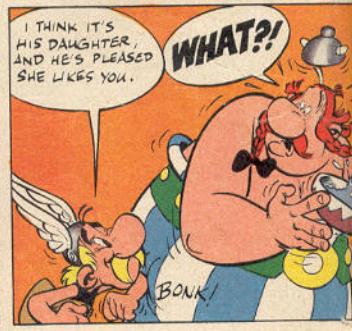
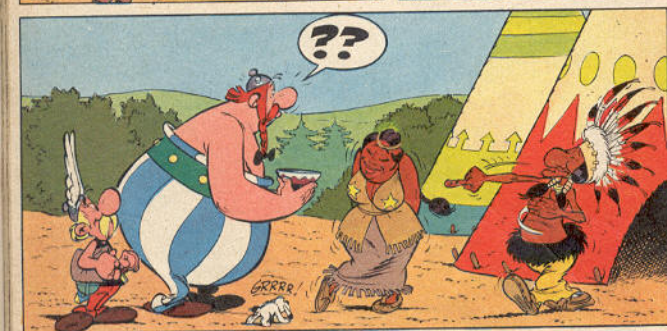
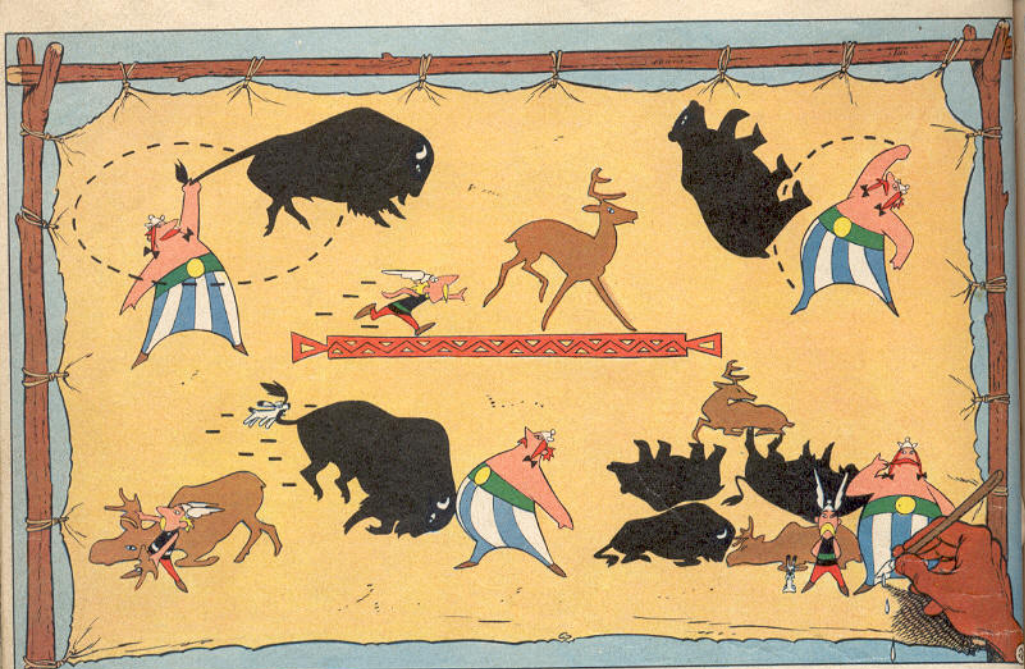
**OLÉ!
OLÉ!**

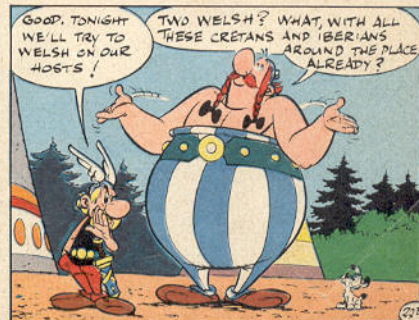
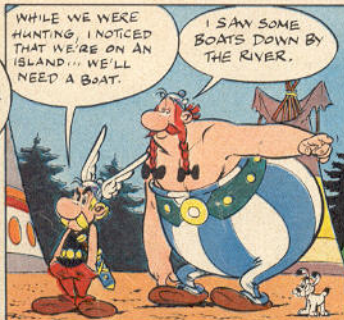
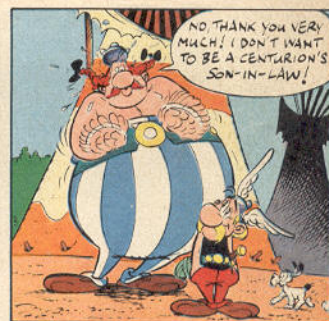
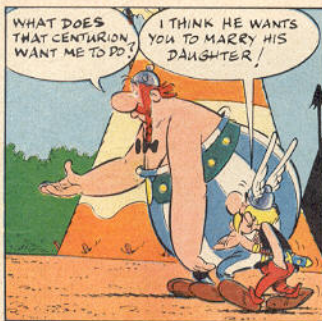
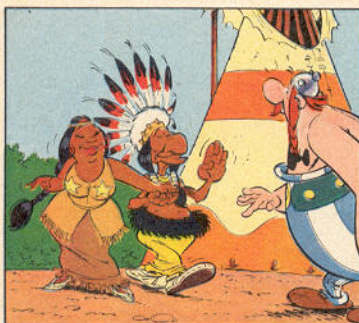
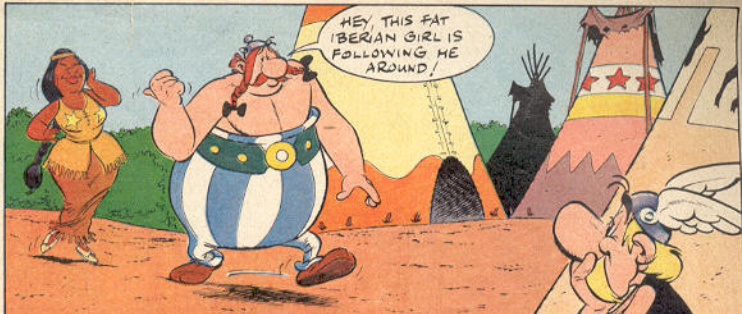
CLACK! CLACK!

SSSSH, OBEUX!



OLÉ! OLÉ! OLÉ! SEE? **? OLÉ! OLÉ!**





THAT NIGHT...



I DON'T THINK WE PICKED THE RIGHT BOAT...

SHALL WE GO BACK AND GET ANOTHER?



A BIT RISKY... YOUR FATHER-IN-LAW MIGHT CATCH US AT IT!

IN THAT CASE, NO!



LET'S MAKE FOR THAT LITTLE ISLAND.



WE'LL SPEND THE NIGHT HERE, AND TOMORROW WE'LL SEE...

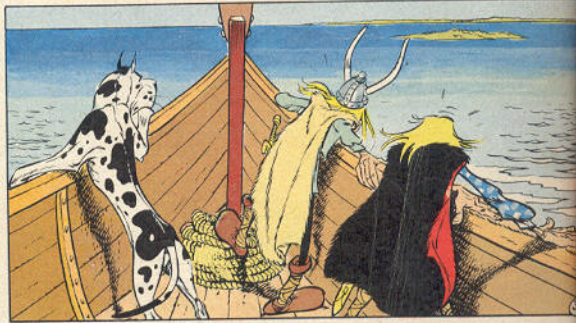
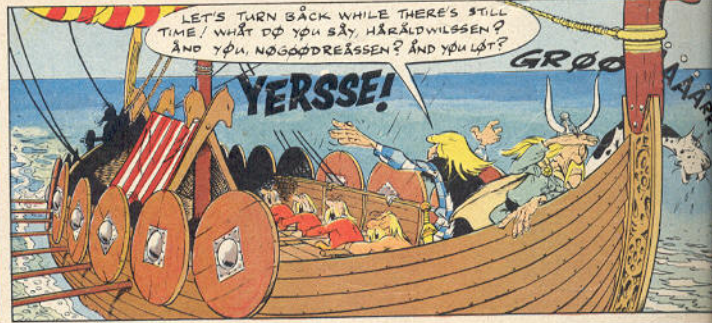
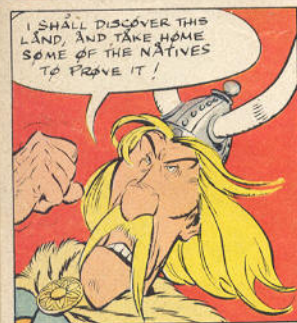
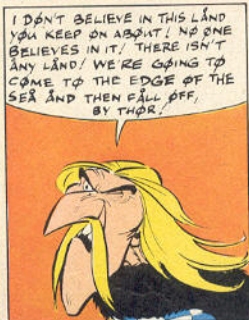
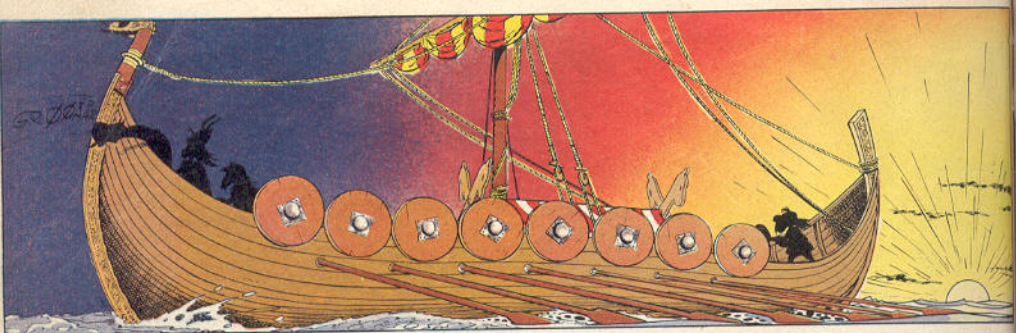


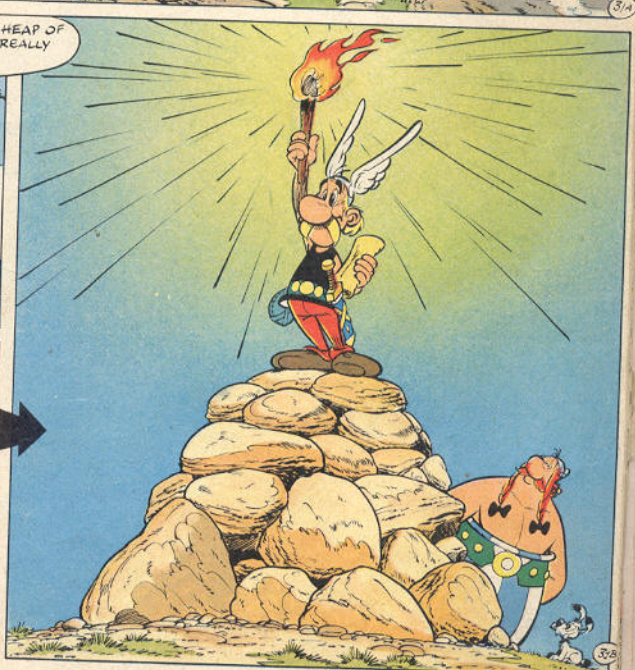
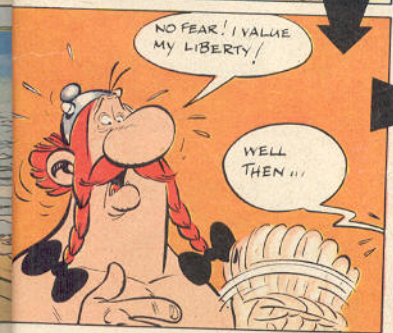
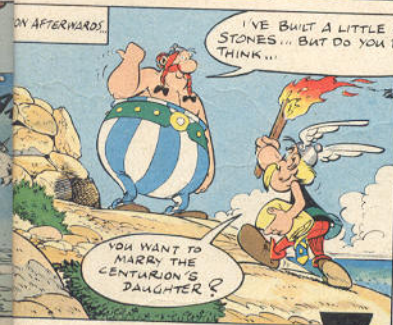
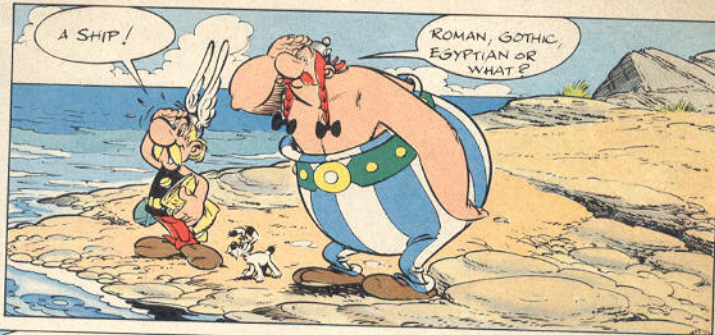
GRØØØÅARR!

DØWN, HUNTINGSEASSEN!

LEAVE HIM ALONE; AFTER ALL, HE'S ONLY A PUPPY!



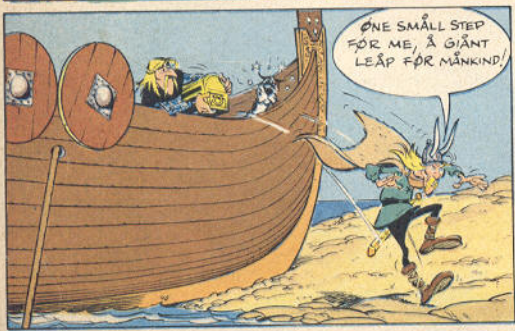




LÄND!
INHÄBITED,
AT THAT!
PULL HARD,
BOYS!



THEY'VE
SEEN US!
THEY'RE
COMING!

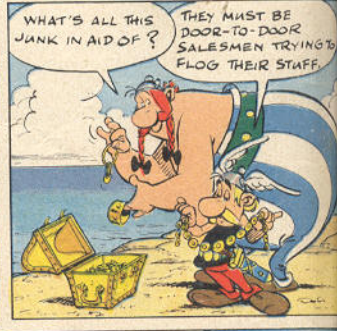
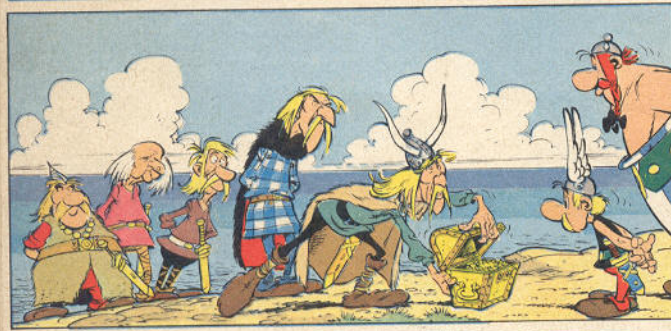


ONE SMALL STEP
FOR ME, A GIANT
LEAP FOR MÄNKIND!



WHAT WAS ALL
THAT ABOUT?

IT JUST SORT OF
CAME TO ME... HÄND ME
THE BEADS, WE'LL
SOFTEN THEM UP!

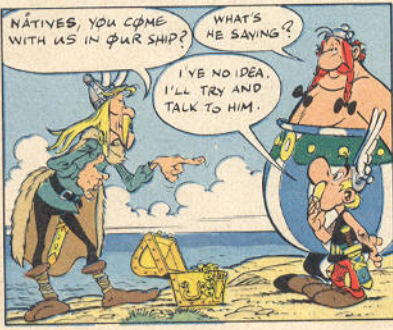


WHAT'S ALL THIS
JUNK IN AID OF?

THEY MUST BE
DOOR-TO-DOOR
SALESMEN TRYING TO
FLOG THEIR STAFF!



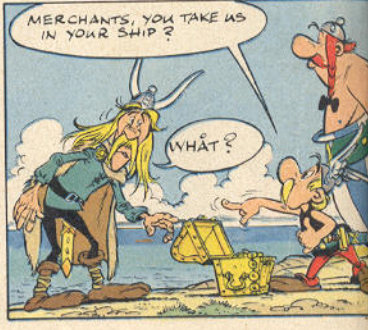
THEY LOOK
PLEASED... LET'S
STRIKE WHILE THE
IRON'S HOT!



NÄTIVES, YOU COME
WITH US IN OUR SHIP?

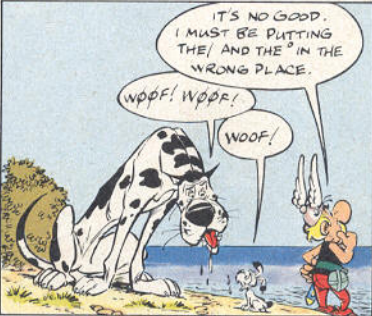
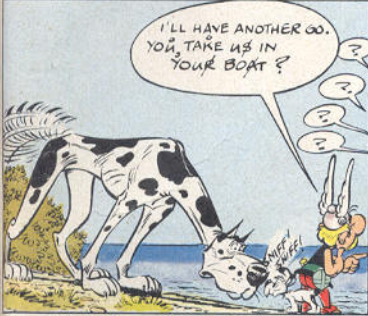
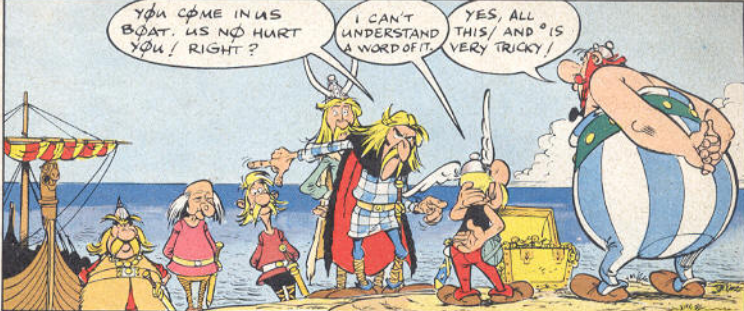
WHAT'S
HE SAYING?

I'VE NO IDEA,
I'LL TRY AND
TALK TO HIM.

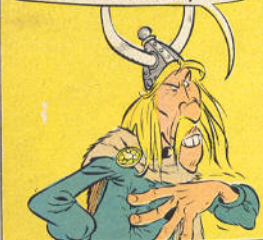


MERCHANTS, YOU TAKE US
IN YOUR SHIP?

WHAT?



LET'S TRY TO GET ACQUAINTED.
I'LL DO THE INTRODUCTIONS.
ME HERENDETHELSEN THE
ADVENTURUS...

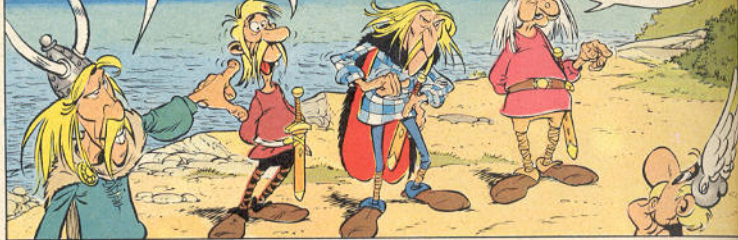


HIM NAGOODREASSEN
THE NUTCASE...

O YEAH!

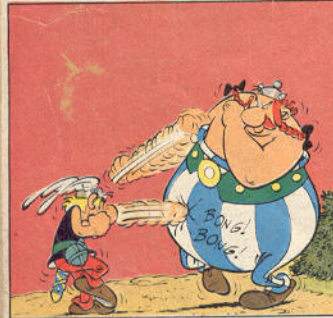
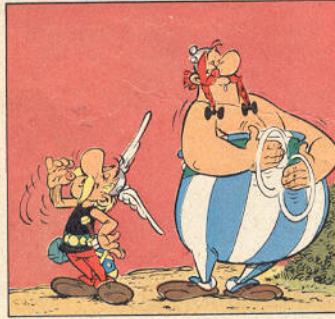
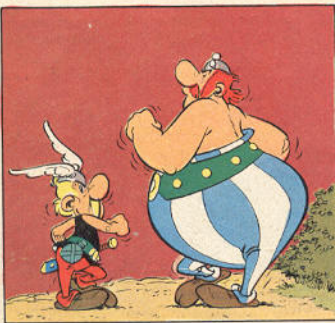
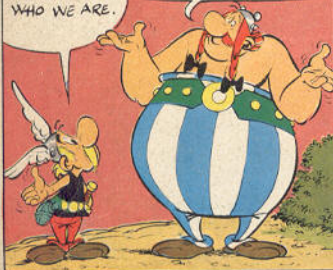
ME STEPTOANSSEN
SHIFTY-EYES...

ME HARALDWILSEN
THE INTELLECTUAL.
YOU WHAT?



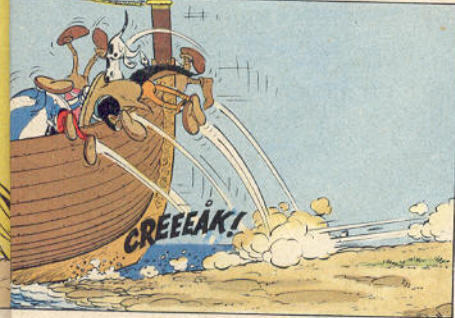
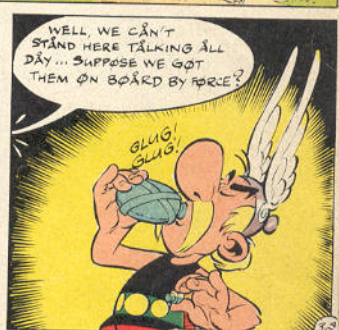
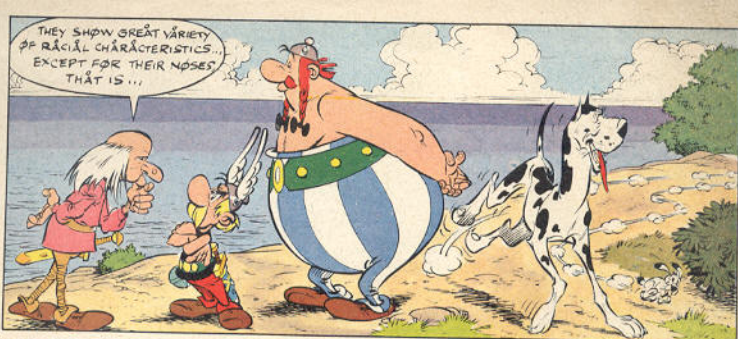
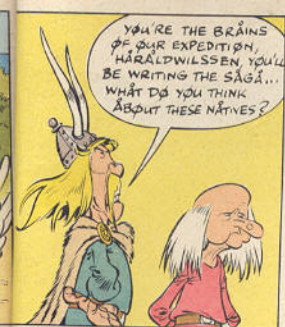
I THINK THEY
WANT TO KNOW
WHO WE ARE.

WELL LET'S PUT ON THE SHOW WE
GAVE THOSE ROMAN COLONIALS
AGAIN...



IT'S ALL
RIGHT, ASTERN.
THEY GET THE
IDEA.

TAP!
TAP!
TAP!





SURE ENOUGH, IT IS A FAST CROSSING, AND SOON A THICK FOG COVERS THE ICY SEA ...

LÅND!

WE'RE BACK!
PREPARE TO HAVE
HONOURS HEAPED
UPON YOU!

OH, THERE YOU ARE AT
LÅST, HERENDETHELESSEN!
YOU LAZY BLIGHTER! BY
ODIN, WHERE THE
NIFLHEIM HAVE
YOU BEEN?

IT'S ... IT'S
ODIUSCOMPÄRISSEN
THE TERRIFYING,
THE CHIEF OF OUR
TRIBE!

OF COURSE IT'S
ODIUSCOMPÄRISSEN!
DID YOU THINK IT
WAS A DEAR UTILE
MERMAID?

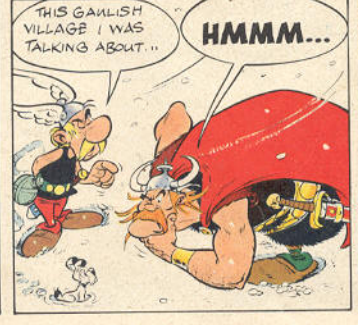
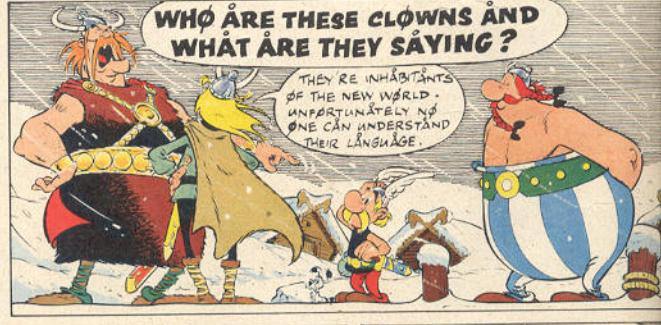
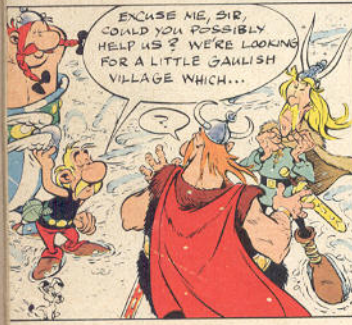
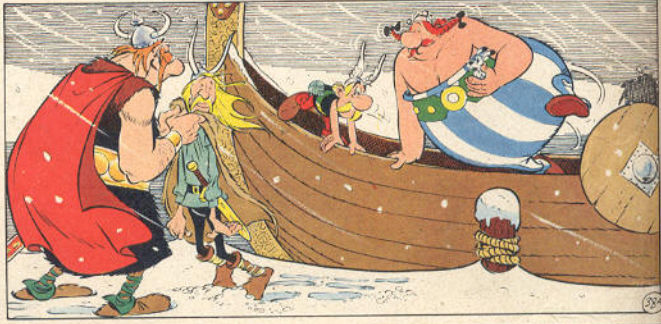
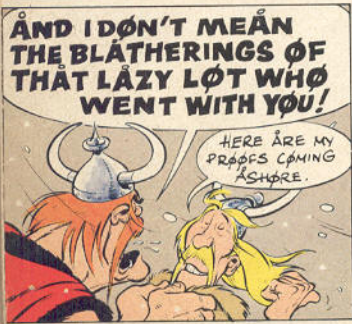
I SÄLUTE YOU, O
CHIEF ODIUSCOMPÄRISSEN!

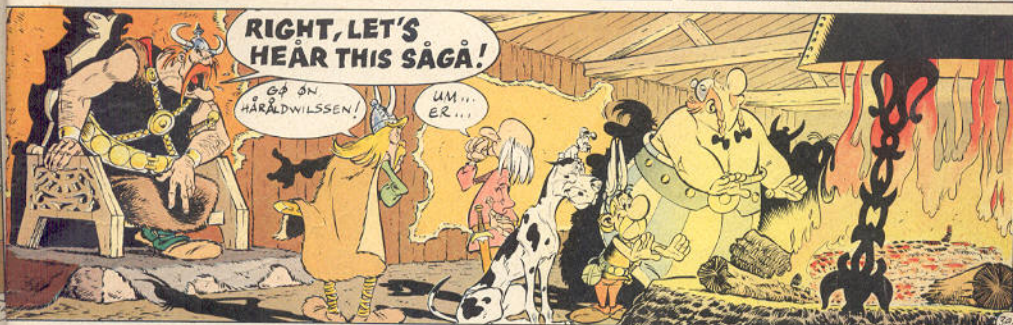
AND
I DON'T
SÄLUTE YOU!

WHILE WE WERE ALL OUT ON A RAIDING
EXPEDITION, MR HERENDETHELESSEN
WENT FOR A CRUISE!

WE HAVE PILLAGED AND
BURNT, WE'VE BROUGHT
BACK PLUNDER, SLAVES,
WHILE YOU...

WHILE I'VE
BEEN DISCOVERING
A WORLD... A
NEW WORLD!





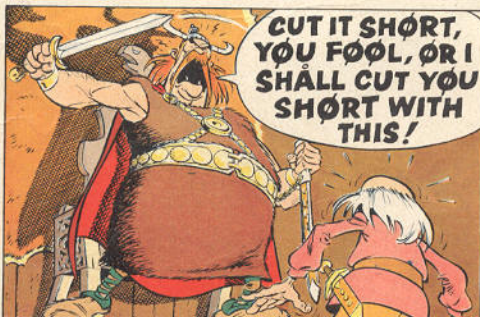
RIGHT, LET'S HEAR THIS SAGA!

GO ON HÅRÅDWILSEN!

UM... ER...



FULL OF HOPE AND COURAGE WE SET FORTH, ONE MISTY MORNING IN ...



CUT IT SHORT, YOU FOOL, OR I SHALL CUT YOU SHORT WITH THIS!



TWO MINUTES LATER!!!

... TILL BACK THIS MORNING STOP DELIGHTED HEAR BELLOVED CHIEF'S DULCET VOICE STOP



AMAZING! AND DOES THIS LAND LOOK RICH?



SEE HOW WELL-NOURISHED THIS NATIVE IS, AND THE OTHER ONE MAY SEEM FRÅIL, BUT HE HAS SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH!



WOMEN! GERTRUDE! INTRUDE! IRMGÅRD! FIREGÅRD GET A FEAST READY STRAIGH AWAY! WE'RE GOING TO CELEBRATE THE RETURN OF OUR HEROES AND OUR IMMINENT DEPARTURE FOR THE NEW WORLD!



WE'LL EAT, DRINK
AND MAKE MERRY
AND HAVE A
NICE FIGHT!

BONK!

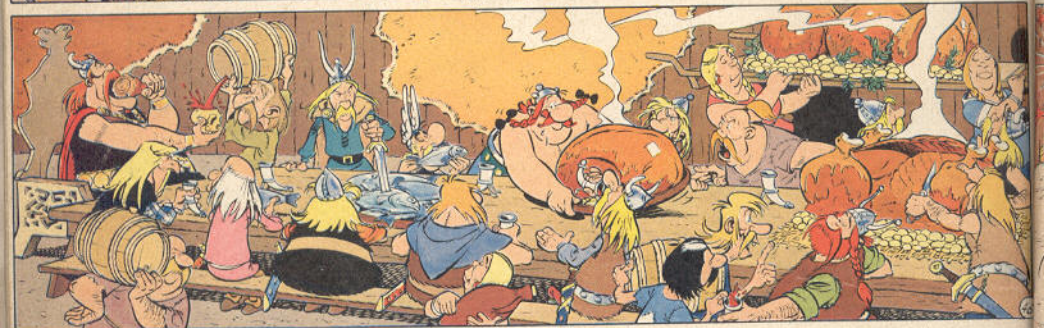


YOUR NATIVES CAN JOIN
THE FUN TOO! AFTERWARDS
WE'LL SACRIFICE THEM TO
THE GODS. IT IS AN HONOUR
RICHLY DESERVED!



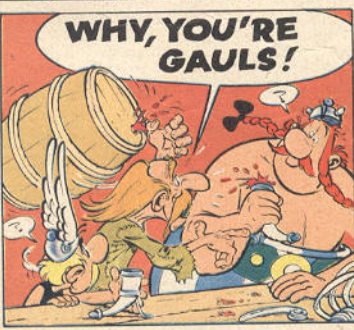
HUH!
WHAT FOR?
THEY HAVEN'T
DONE A THING!

WE ALL HAVE
TO LEARN TO MAKE
SACRIFICES.



DON'T
DRINK TOO
MUCH.

OH, COME ON, LET'S
HAVE A BIT OF FUN. I
LIKE THESE PEOPLE.



**WHY, YOU'RE
GAULS!**



**WHAT? YOU, SLAVE!
COME HERE!**

COMING...
I MEAN COMING
MASTER!

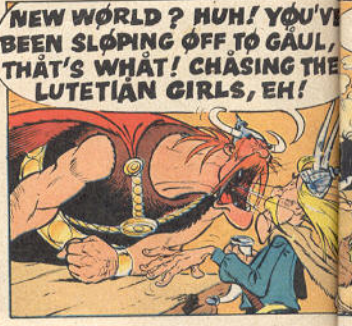


**CAN YOU TALK TO
THESE PEOPLE FROM
THE NEW WORLD?**

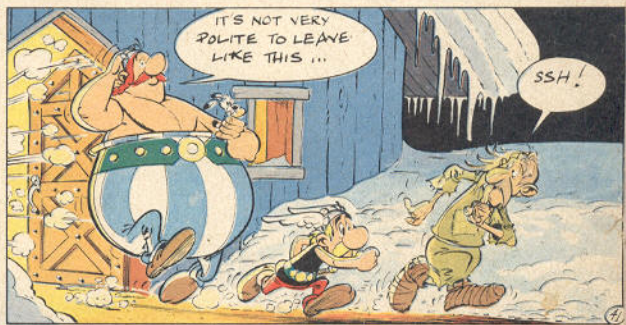
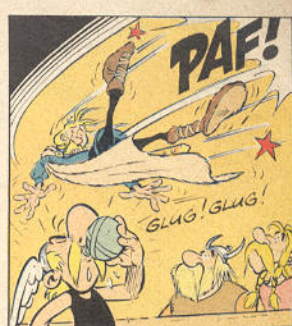
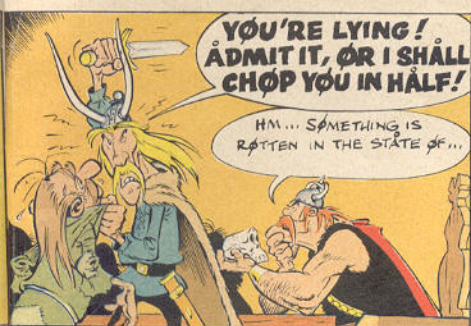
NEW WORLD?...
BUT THEY'RE GAULS,
THE SAME AS ME...
SORRY, THE SAME
AS ME!

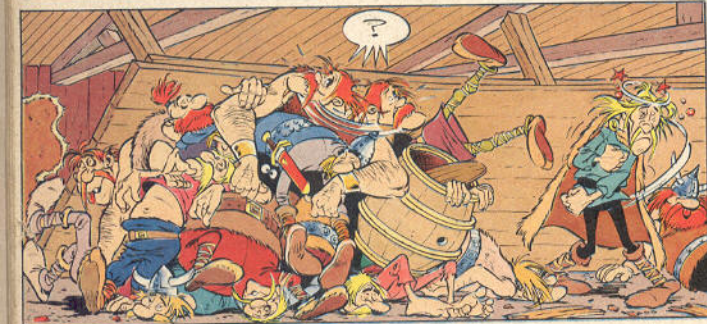
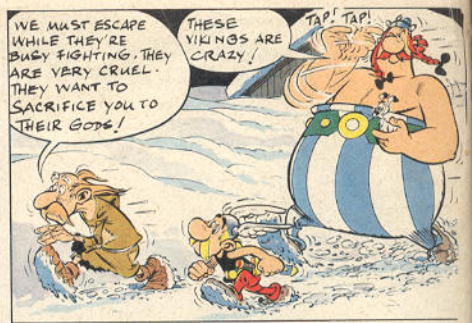
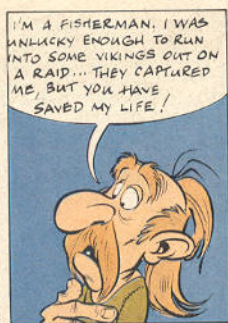


THIS SLAVE
WITH THE AWFUL
ACCENT IS LYING! HE
MUST BE A NATIVE OF
THE NEW WORLD
TOO!



**NEW WORLD? HUH! YOU'VE
BEEN SLOPPING OFF TO GAUL,
THAT'S WHAT! CHASING THE
LUTETIAN GIRLS, EH!**







THEY'VE MADE OFF WITH THE SLAVE AND HIS BOAT!



YOU OLD RASCAL! TRYING TO FOOL ME WITH YOUR TALES OF A NEW WORLD!



BUT I FORGIVE YOU! IT WAS A SPLENDID FIGHT, AND WE'VE HAD A LOT OF FUN!



BUT NO SHIRKING NEXT TIME! COME AND HAVE A DRINK!



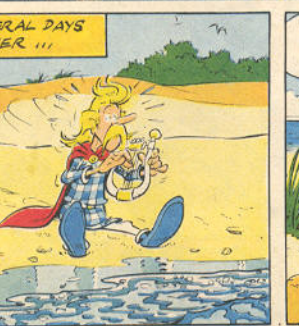
AM I SUPPOSED TO BE A DISCOVERER, OR AM I NOT...?



COMING, HERENDETHELSEN?



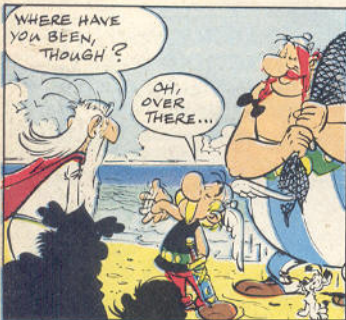
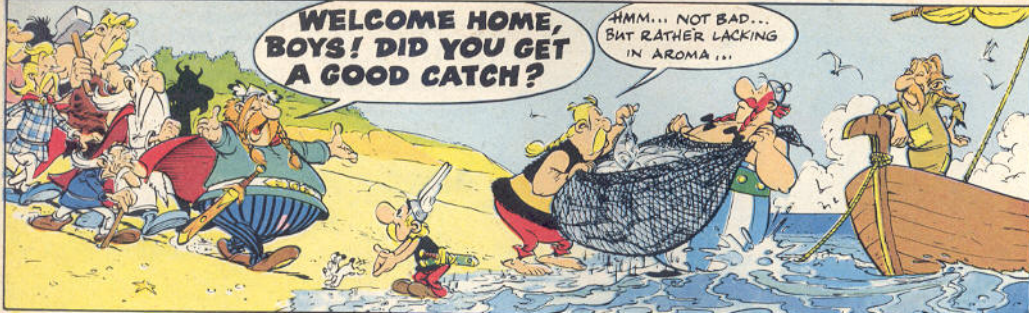
TO BE OR NOT TO BE, THAT IS THE QUESTION...



SEVERAL DAYS LATER !!!



THEY'RE BACK! THEY'RE BACK!



HOWEVER, SUCH CONSIDERATIONS DO NOT WORRY OUR GAULISH FRIENDS FOR LONG. FEASTING UNDER THE STARRY SKY, THEY BASK ONCE MORE IN THE WARMTH OF FRIENDSHIP, AND FALL BACK INTO THEIR OLD WAYS AGAIN.



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