

HODDER-DARGAUD PRESENTS



BOOK 24

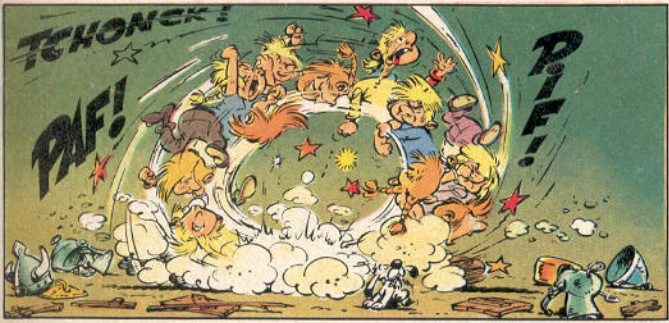
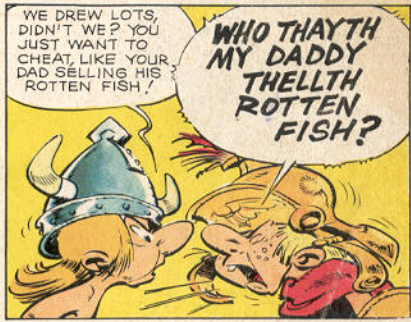
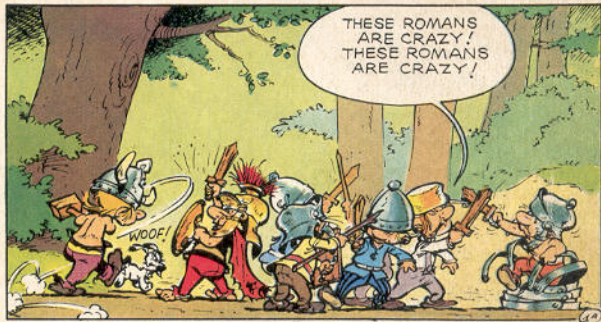
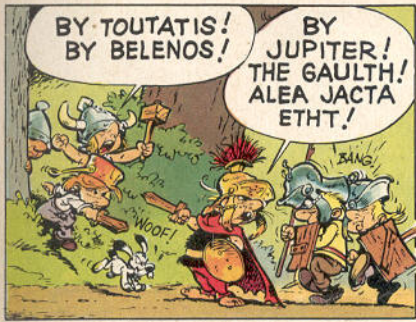
TEXT: GOSCINNY
DRAWINGS: UDERZO

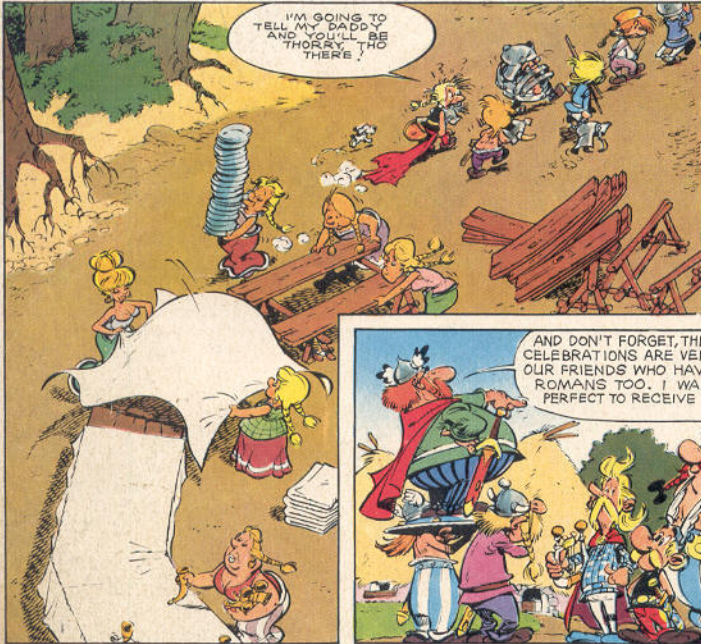
Asterix

in CORSICA



UDERZO



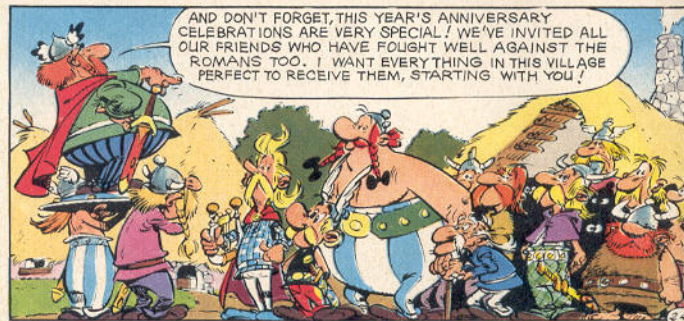


I'M GOING TO TELL MY DADDY AND YOU'LL BE THORRY 'TISE THERE!

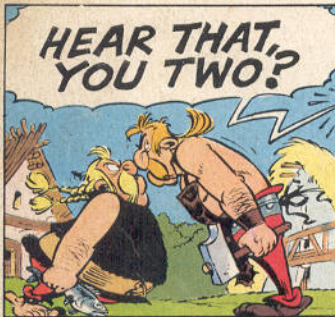


DO WE NEED TO LAY A PLACE FOR CACOFONIX THE BARD?

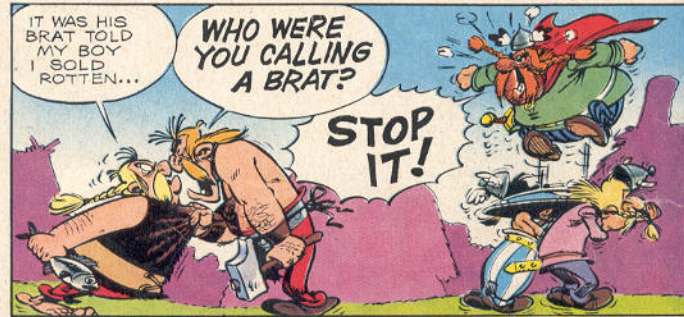
YES, EVERYONE CELEBRATES THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE GAULLS' VICTORY AT GERGOVIA, EVEN THE BARD.



AND DON'T FORGET, THIS YEAR'S ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS ARE VERY SPECIAL. I'VE INVITED ALL OUR FRIENDS WHO HAVE FOUGHT WELL AGAINST THE ROMANS TOO. I WANT EVERYTHING IN THIS VILLAGE PERFECT TO RECEIVE THEM, STARTING WITH YOU!



HEAR THAT, YOU TWO?



IT WAS HIS BRAT TOLD MY BOY I SOLD ROTTEN...

WHO WERE YOU CALLING A BRAT?

STOP IT!



I WANT EVERYTHING SPOTLESSLY CLEAN! INCLUDING MY SHIELD... IT'S FILTY... JUST LOOK AT IT!

WHAT, NOW?



IT'S NOT ALL THAT DIRTY...

I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING...

SOMETIMES I WONDER IF IT'S ALL WORTH WHILE...

IN THE FORTIFIED ROMAN
CAMP OF TOTORLIM...

RIGHT!
EVERYONE
READY?



AND ABOUT TIME TOO!
FORWARD MARCH... AND
IN SILENCE, PLEASE.



I'M ON A MISSION,
CENTURION. WE'VE COME
A LONG WAY. I WANT
SHELTER FOR THE
NIGHT BEFORE
WE CONTINUE
OUR JOURNEY.

THE FACT
IS... WE
WERE JUST
GOING OUT.



HOW
MANY OF
YOU?
WHERE?

ER... ALL OF
US. GOING ON
MANOEUVRES
IN THE
HINTERLAND.



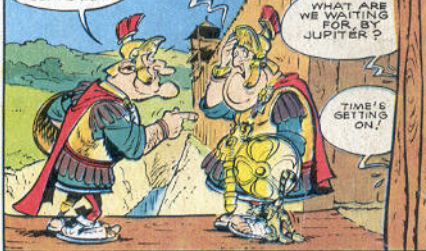
YOU MEAN
YOU'RE LEAVING
THE CAMP UN-
GUARDED?

ER...
SORT OF...

ARE WE OFF,
CENTURION?

WHAT ARE
WE WAITING
FOR, BY
JUPITER?

TIME'S
GETTING
ON!



WELL, I'M
AWFULLY
SORRY AND
ALL THAT...
DROP US A
SLAB IN
ADVANCE
ANOTHER TIME.
AWE'RE
OFF.

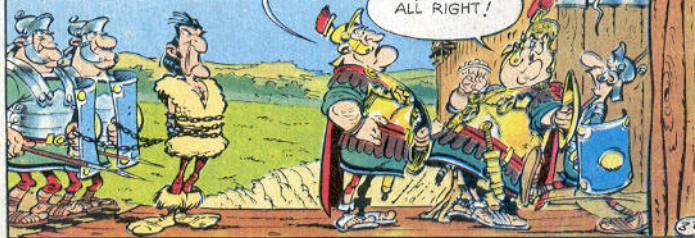
**NO
ONE'S OFF
ANY-
WHERE!**



I AM ON A SPECIAL MISSION FROM PRAETOR
PERFIDILUS, GOVERNOR OF CORSICA, AND
I DEMAND AN EXPLANATION OF THIS
SUSPICIOUS HASTE!

LISTEN, CENTURION HIPPOPOTAMUS,
IF YOU DON'T MIND WE'LL GO ON
AHEAD AND YOU JOIN US LATER.
ALL RIGHT?

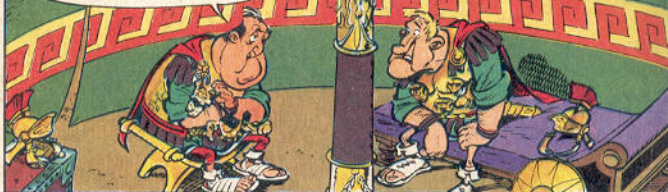
NO, IT IS NOT
ALL RIGHT!



HERE, COME INTO MY TENT... DON'T START WITHOUT ME, YOU LOT. THIS WON'T TAKE LONG.



TODAY IS THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF GERGOVIA. THE PEOPLE OF THE NEARBY GAULISH VILLAGE HAVE A WAY OF CELEBRATING THE OCCASION BY ATTACKING THE NEIGHBOURING ROMAN GARRISONS.

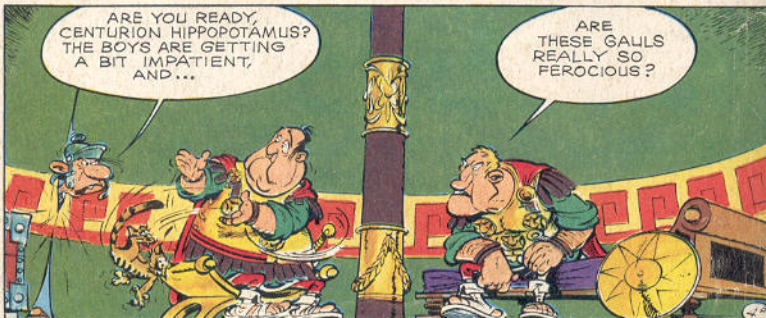


AND YOU DON'T ATTEMPT TO STOP THIS LOCAL CUSTOM?

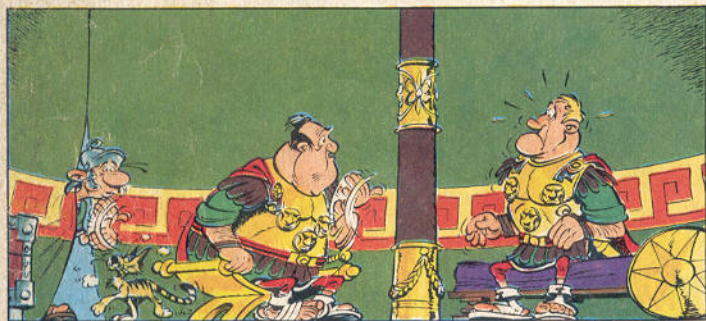
WE CERTAINLY DO! WE STOP IT BY LEAVING CAMP AND GOING ON MANOEUVRES!



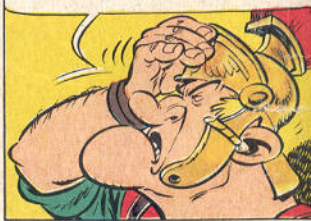
ARE YOU READY, CENTURION HIPPOPOTAMUS? THE BOYS ARE GETTING A BIT IMPATIENT, AND...



ARE THESE GAULS REALLY SO FEROCIOUS?

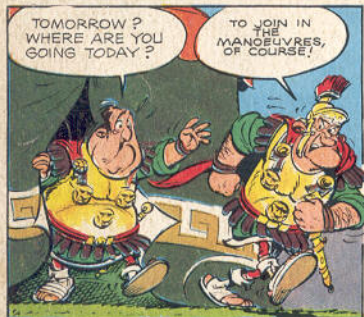


WELL, TOO BAD, I'M ESCORTING A CORSICAN EXILE, AND HE'S SPENDING THE NIGHT IN THIS CAMP. YOU AND YOUR GARRISON ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR CAESAR'S SAFE KEEPING, I'LL BE BACK TO PICK HIM UP TOMORROW.



TOMORROW? WHERE ARE YOU GOING TODAY?

TO JOIN IN THE MANOEUVRES, OF COURSE!



BUT... BUT YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO US! THE GAULS WILL SLAUGHTER US! WHAT'S MORE, IF THEY SEE WE'VE GOT A PRISONER HERE, THEY'LL...

BRING THE EXILE ALONG!



AVE, CENTURION, AND DON'T FORGET, CAESAR WILL HOLD YOU RESPONSIBLE!



THE FIRST GUESTS ARE ARRIVING AT THE LITTLE GAULISH VILLAGE...



PETITSUIX !

I'VE BROUGHT YOU A HELVETIAN CHEESE.



HUEVOS Y BACON !

¡ OLE, HOMBRES, OLE !

¡ DOGMATIX !



INSTANTMIX ! YOU'VE COME ALL THE WAY FROM ROME !

I JUST HAD TO HEAR THE SOUND OF YOUR VOICE AGAIN !



ANTICLIMAX ! MYKINGDOMFORANOS ! O'VEROPTIMISTIX ! McANIX ! DIP-SOMANIX !

I SAY OLD BOY, THIS IS SIMPLY MA'VELLOUS, WHAT ? GOOD TO SEE YOU, COUSIN ASTERIX !



JELLIBABIX FROM LUGDUNUM ! DRINKLAFIX FROM MASSILIA ! SENIORSERVIX FROM GESOCRIBATUM !



WINESANSPIRIX THE ARVERNIAN !

REMEMBER HOW WE BIDDED CAESAR OUT OF THE CHIEFTAIN'S SHIELD ?



WHAT A PRETTY DRESS !

YES, IT'S MADE OF OUR OWN *LUGDUNUM SILK.

*LYONS



I'M ENJOYING BEING LIONISED LIKE THIS TOO.

¡ HOMBRE ! I USE OLIVE OIL FOR ALL MY COOKING !

YOU DON'T SAY ! FANCY THAT ! I USE BOILING WATER. IT GIVES EVERYTHING A LOVELY FLAVOUR, DON'T YOU KNOW ?

REMEMBER HOW WE BOWLED THOSE ROMANS OVER IN MASSILIA ?

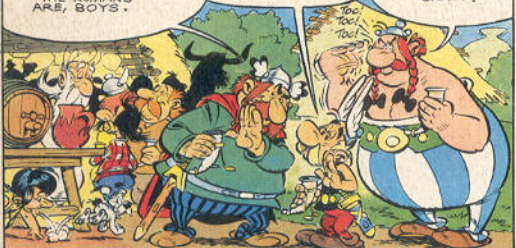
HAHAHAHA !

REMEMBER WHEN YOU WERE EATING HOLES IN CHEESE IN THAT GENEVA BANK VAULT ?

WE WANT TO OFFER OUR GUESTS A BIT OF PUNCH FOR AN APÉRITIF... GO AND SEE WHERE THE ROMANS ARE, BOYS.

THEY USUALLY HIDE ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF GERGOVIA TO AVOID THE PUNCH-UP.

WHEN THEY COULD HAVE FUN WITH US! THESE ROMANS ARE CRAZY!



LET'S TRY THE CAMP OF LAUDANUM FIRST.

COME ON, DOGMATIX! YOU'LL BE SEEING PEPE AGAIN!



IN THE CAMP OF LAUDANUM...

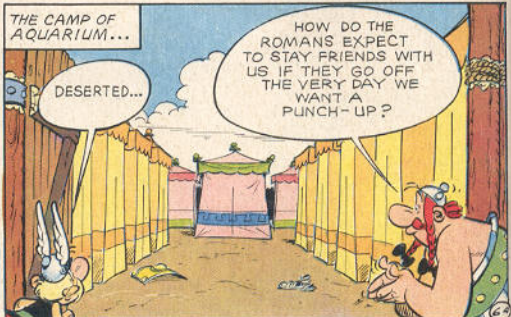
ANYONE AT HOME?



THE CAMP OF AQUARIUM...

DESERTED...

HOW DO THE ROMANS EXPECT TO STAY FRIENDS WITH US IF THEY GO OFF THE VERY DAY WE WANT A PUNCH-UP?



SOON AFTERWARDS...

AND THE CAMP OF COMPENDIUM WAS EMPTY TOO.

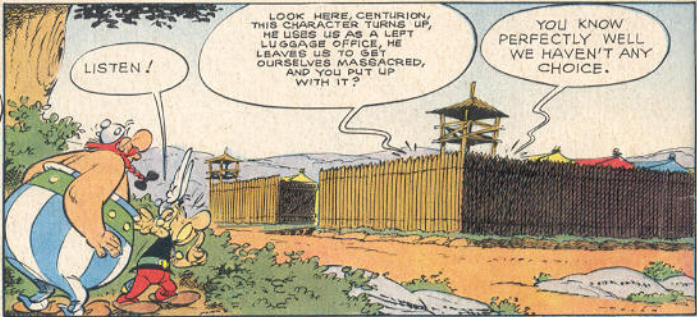
LET'S TRY TOTORUM, AND IF THERE'S NO ONE THERE WE'LL JUST HAVE TO PLAY CHARADES INSTEAD.



LISTEN!

LOOK HERE, CENTURION, THIS CHARACTER TURNS UP, HE USES US AS A LEFT LUGGAGE OFFICE, HE LEAVES US TO SET OURSELVES MASSACRED, AND YOU PUT UP WITH IT?

YOU KNOW PERFECTLY WELL WE HAVEN'T ANY CHOICE.



CENTURION, I'VE GOT AN IDEA: YOU STAY HERE TO GUARD THE PRISONER, WE JOIN THE OTHER LADS, AND IF ANYONE ATTACKS YOU...

SILENCE! WE'RE ALL STAYING!

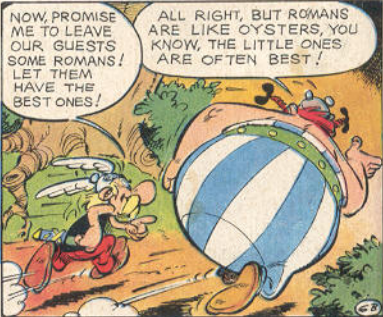


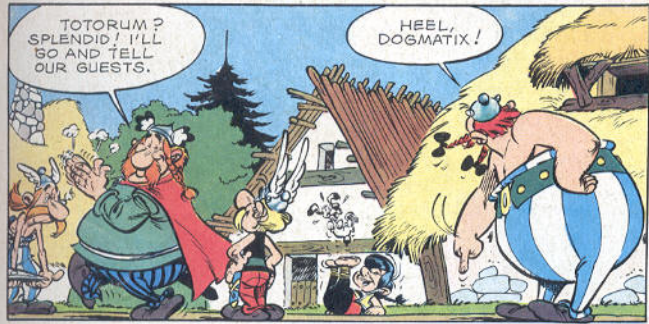
THEY'RE THERE! GOOD FOR THEM! THIS'LL BE FUN... THEY'LL BE GLAD THEY STAYED!



NOW PROMISE ME TO LEAVE OUR GUESTS SOME ROMANS! LET THEM HAVE THE BEST ONES!

ALL RIGHT, BUT ROMANS ARE LIKE OYSTERS, YOU KNOW, THE LITTLE ONES ARE OFTEN BEST!





TOTORUM ?
SPLENDID ! I'LL
GO AND TELL
OUR GUESTS.

HEEL,
DOGMATIX !



FRIENDS, NON-ROMANS, AND
OTHER-COUNTRYMEN, YOU ARE
NOW DRINKING THE MAGIC POTION
BREWED BY OUR DRUID GETAFIX...

HURRAH!

UP WITH
GETAFIX !
DOWN THE
HATCH WITH
HIS
POTION!



YOU'LL SOON NOTICE ITS EFFECTS.
WE'RE GOING TO ATTACK THE ROMAN
CAMP OF TOTORUM BEFORE
DINNER. A LITTLE PUNCH-
UP BY WAY OF AN
APERITIF.

PUNCH-
UP !

I'M PLEASED
AS PUNCH !

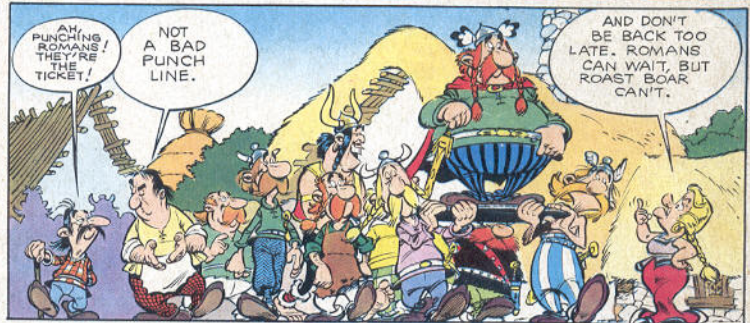
THAT'S THE
TICKET !



TICKETY-BOO, EH ?

TICKETY
WHAT ?

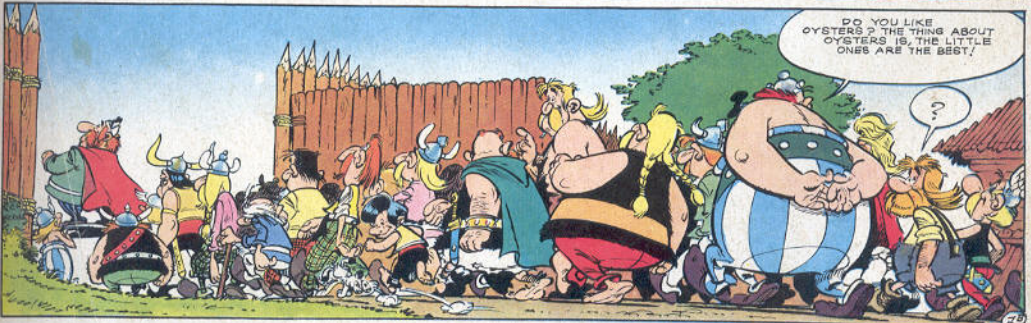
THIS IS
WHAT MAKES US
TICK.



AH,
PUNCHING
ROMANS !
THEY'RE
THE
TICKET !

NOT
A BAD
PUNCH
LINE.

AND DON'T
BE BACK TOO
LATE. ROMANS
CAN WAIT, BUT
ROAST BOAR
CAN'T.



DO YOU LIKE
OYSTERS ? THE THING ABOUT
OYSTERS IS, THE LITTLE
ONES ARE THE BEST!

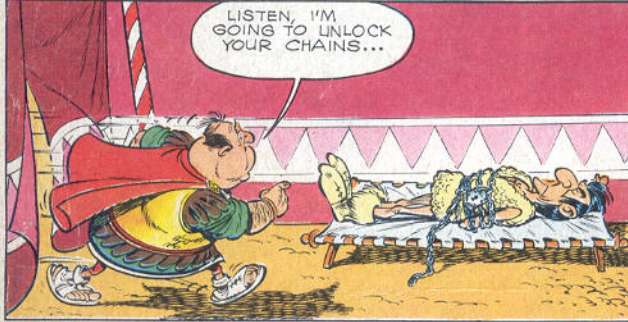
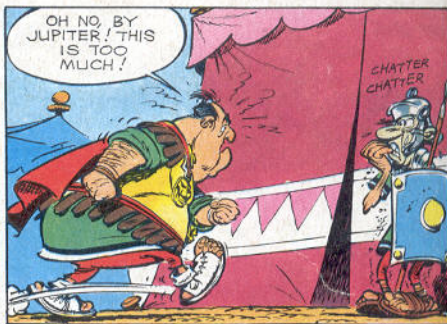
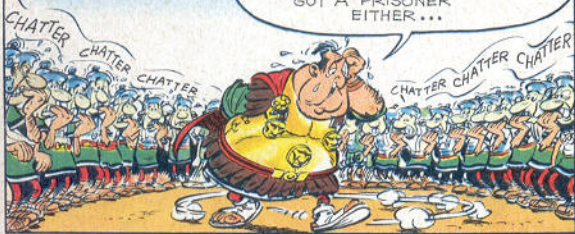
?

AN ARMED VIGIL IS IN PROGRESS AT TOTORUM ...

...AND THERE'LL BE THE GREAT BIG BRUTE, AND THE DREADFUL LITTLE MIDGET, ALL STUFFED WITH MAGIC POTION, AND THEY WON'T LIKE IT WHEN THEY SEE WE'VE GOT A PRISONER EITHER...

OH NO, BY JUPITER! THIS IS TOO MUCH!

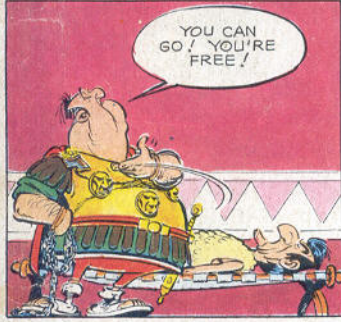
CHATTER CHATTER



LISTEN, I'M GOING TO UNLOCK YOUR CHAINS...



IF THEY RECAPTURE YOU, YOU MUST PROMISE TO SAY YOU ESCAPED ON YOUR OWN AND NO ONE HELPED YOU... DON'T ASK WHY I'M DOING THIS FOR YOU...



YOU CAN GO! YOU'RE FREE!



I SAID : YOU CAN GO! YOU'RE FREE!



LISTEN, WILL YOU? YOU'RE FREE! YOU CAN GO!

AFTER MY SIESTA.



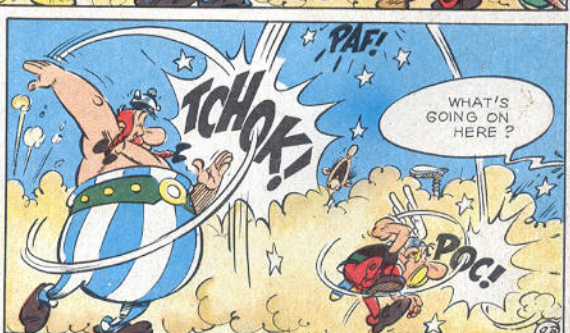
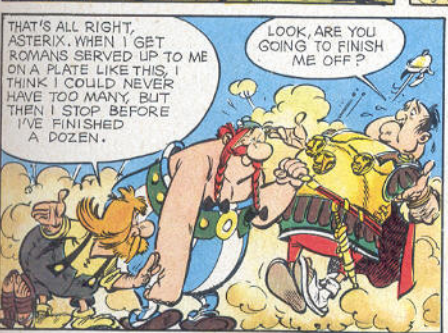
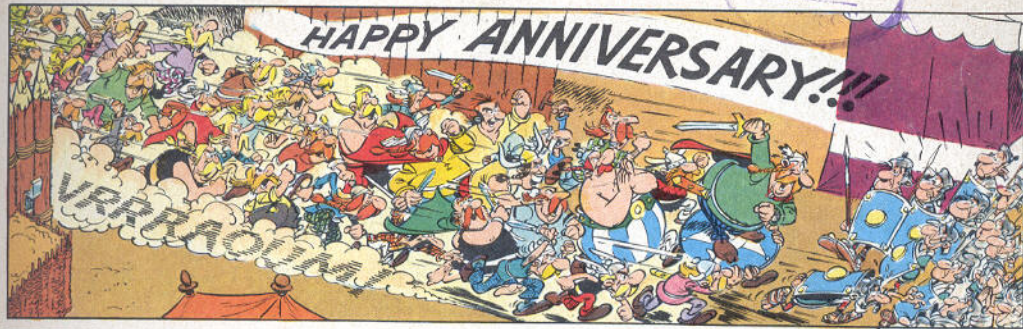
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, AFTER YOUR SIESTA?

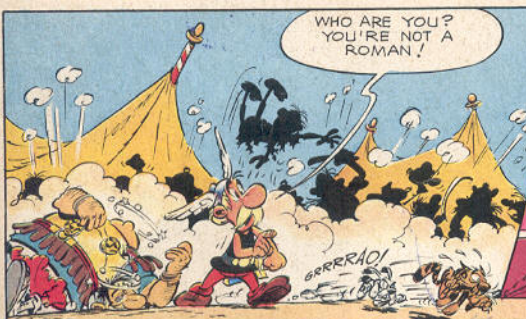
IT'S GETTING LATE, ROMAN. IF I DON'T HAVE MY SIESTA NOW, I SHAN'T HAVE TIME TO HAVE IT BEFORE BEDTIME, SO LEAVE ME ALONE OR I MIGHT LOSE MY TEMPER.



LOOK, ARE YOU OR ARE YOU NOT GOING TO ESCAPE?!

THEY'RE COMING, CENTURION HIPPOPOTAMUS, AND THEY'VE GOT SOME FRIENDS WITH THEM... WE WOULDN'T LIKE YOU TO MISS THE START.





WHO ARE YOU?
YOU'RE NOT A
ROMAN!

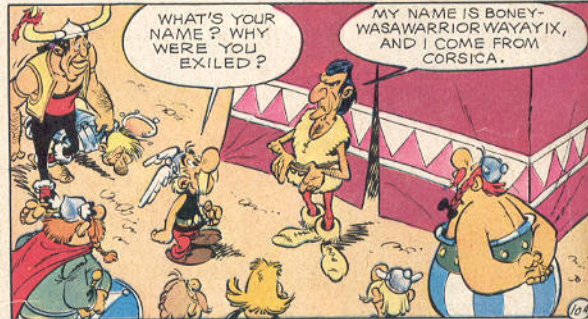


BEFORE NOT. I'M AN
EXILED PRISONER SLEEPING
OVERNIGHT IN THIS CAMP. THOUGH
I DON'T KNOW THAT MY
ESCORTS HAVE PICKED THE
RIGHT SPOT FOR A GOOD
NIGHT'S REST.



A PRISONER?

YES, BUT YOU CAN'T DO ANY-
THING ABOUT IT NOW! YOU'VE
BASHED US UP ALREADY!
TRICKED YOU THAT TIME,
DIDN'T WE?

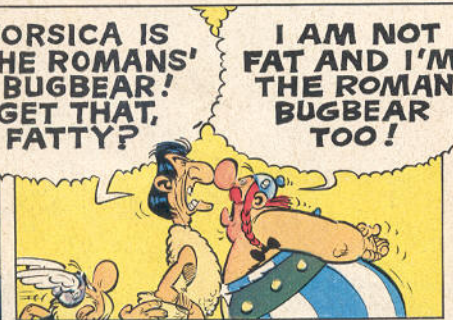


WHAT'S YOUR
NAME? WHY
WERE YOU
EXILED?

MY NAME IS BONEY-
WASAWARRIORWAYAYIX,
AND I COME FROM
CORSIKA.



WHAT'S
CORSIKA?



**CORSIKA IS
THE ROMANS'
BUGBEAR!
GET THAT,
FATTY?**

**I AM NOT
FAT AND I'M
THE ROMANS'
BUGBEAR
TOO!**

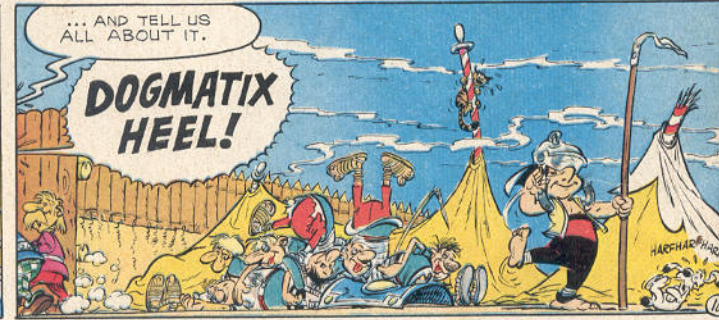


YOU'RE TOUCHY...
I LIKE YOU!

WELL,
WELLINGTON-
WASA...



SORRY, WELL,
BONEY-WASA-
WARRIORWAYAYIX,
COME TO OUR
VILLAGE, SHARE
OUR
BANQUET...

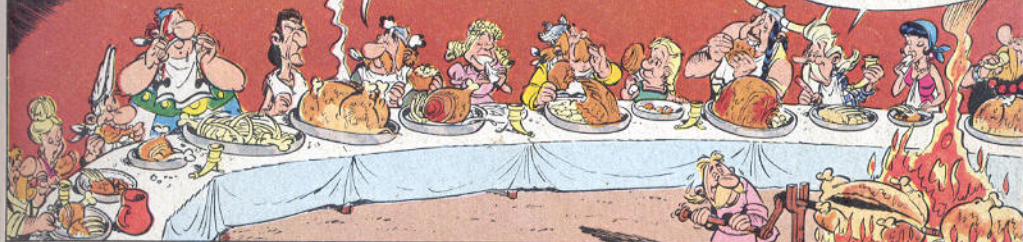


... AND TELL US
ALL ABOUT IT.

**DOGMATIX
HEEL!**

DON'T YOU LIKE BOAR,
BONEY WAS A WARRIOR
WAYAYIX?

FUNNY THAT MAN'S NAME
INSPIRES ME, I'VE GOT AN
IDEA FOR A SONG...
MAYBE A
SHANTY...



YES, I LIKE BOAR
... BUT I CAN SEE
YOU'RE JUST
DIFFERING IT TO
ME OUT OF
PITY.

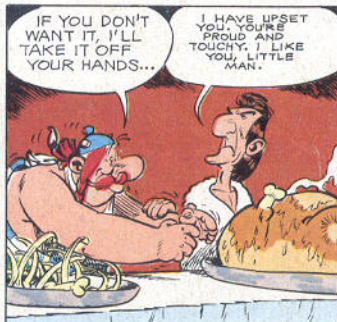
NOT A
BIT OF
IT!

IF YOU DON'T
WANT IT, I'LL
TAKE IT OFF
YOUR HANDS...

I HAVE UPSET
YOU, YOU'RE
PROUD AND
TOUCHY, I LIKE
YOU, LITTLE
MAN.

VERY WELL, I'LL EAT THIS BOAR.

YOU'VE UPSET
ME NOW ALL
RIGHT!



TELL US
ABOUT YOUR COUNTRY,
BONEY WAS A
WARRIORWAYAYIX.

CORSICA IS A ROMAN PROVINCE
GOVERNED BY A PRAETOR
APPOINTED ANNUALLY. DURING HIS
YEAR IN OFFICE, THE PRAETOR
RANSACKS CORSICA, CLAIMING
TO BE LEVYING TAXES, BUT HE
REALLY WANTS TO BE IN
JULIUS CAESAR'S GOOD
BOOKS WHEN HE RETURNS
TO ROME.

FOR
PITY'S
SAKE, A
BOAR!

BUT BEFORE THE
PRAETOR LEAVES, AND
MY MEN GET BACK
EVERYTHING HE HAD IN
HIS WAREHOUSES,
SO FAR CASSARI'S ONLY
HAD PEANUTS OUT
OF US... NOT EVEN
ONE OF OUR CORSICAN
CHESTNUTS.

THE PRESENT PRAETOR, PERFUDDIS, IS THE
GREEDIEST AND CRUELLEST WE'VE HAD YET.
AN ENEMY BETRAYED ME TO HIM AT
SIESTA TIME, AND HE CONDEMNED ME TO
THE WORST OF PUNISHMENTS: EXILE!
BUT THANKS TO YOU, I
SHALL BE BACK IN
CORSICA BEFORE THE
PRAETOR LEAVES,
IN TIME TO GET
BACK ALL THE
LOOT HE'S
STOLEN!



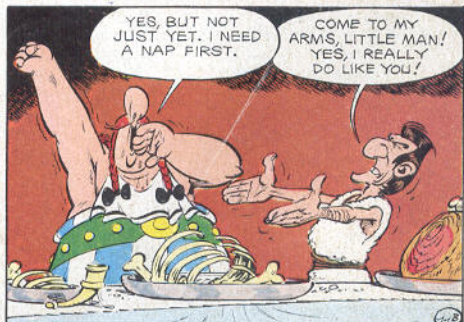
I'D BE
INTERESTED TO
SEE HOW YOU
DEAL WITH
THE
ROMANS!

SCRUNCH!
SCRUNCH!
SCRUNCH!

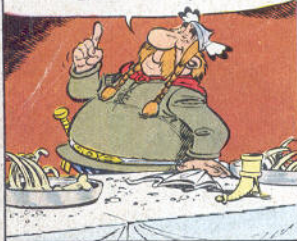
WELL, WHY NOT
COME WITH ME,
ASTERIXOCELLIX,
? WHEN YOU GET HOME, YOU
CAN TELL YOUR FRIENDS
HOW WE DO THESE THINGS
IN CORSICA, THE MOST
BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY
IN THE WORLD!

YES, BUT NOT
JUST YET. I NEED
A NAP FIRST.

COME TO MY
ARMS, LITTLE MAN!
YES, I REALLY
DO LIKE YOU!



RIGHT, THAT'S SETTLED! TOMORROW MORNING ASTERIX AND OBELIX WILL LEAVE FOR CORSEICA WITH YOU. WHEN THEY COME BACK THEY CAN TELL US WHAT METHODS YOU CORSIKANS USE, AND WHAT YOUR COUNTRY'S LIKE!



NEXT MORNING...

I SAY, OLD FRUIT, YOU DO A GOOD LINE IN PARTIES!

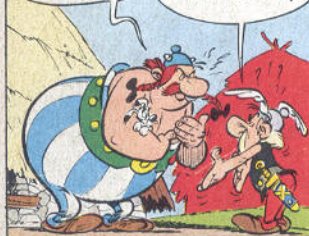
YES, MARVELLOUS PARTY LINE!

SUCH LIBERALITY! OUR TASTES ARE CONSERVATIVE, BUT YOU DIDN'T LABOUR IN VAIN!



AND JUST WHY SHOULD'N'T I TAKE HIM?

HERE WE GO AGAIN! BECAUSE HE'S TOO SMALL, THAT'S WHY!

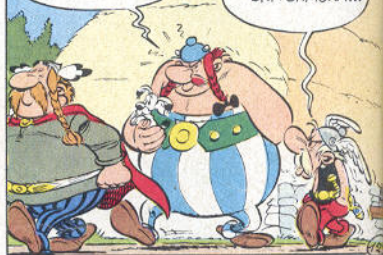


WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU EVERYWHERE, BOYS. YOU'D BETTER LEAVE BEFORE THE ROMANS COME BACK. DON'T FORGET, OUR CORSIKAN FRIEND IS IN GREAT DEMAND.



GRUMBLE-GRUMBLE-GRUMBLE...

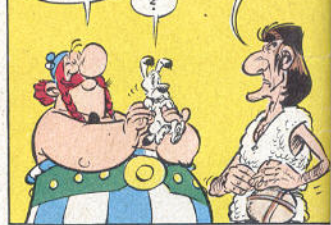
GNAGNAGNA GNAGNAGNA...



AND HERE'S A GOURD OF MAGIC POTION FOR YOU TOO, BONEYWASAWARRIOR-WAYAYIX. A USEFUL LITTLE GIFT AS A MEMENTO OF YOUR VISIT TO US.

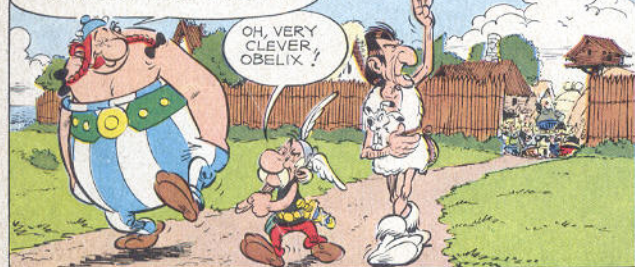
JUST A MINUTE! I'VE GOT A USEFUL LITTLE GIFT FOR YOU TOO!

A LITTLE DOG! I'M VERY FOND OF DOGS!



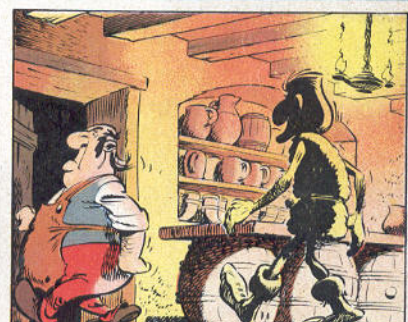
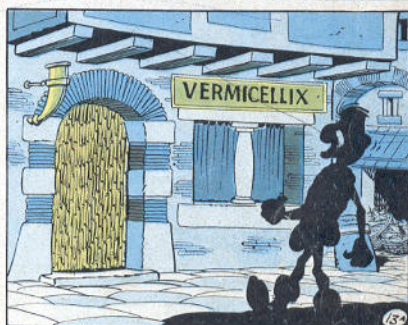
IT MEANS I CAN TRAVEL LIGHT, TOO. HE'LL HAVE TO CARRY DOGMATIX, AND DOGMATIX HAS BEEN PUTTING ON A BIT OF WEIGHT LATELY...

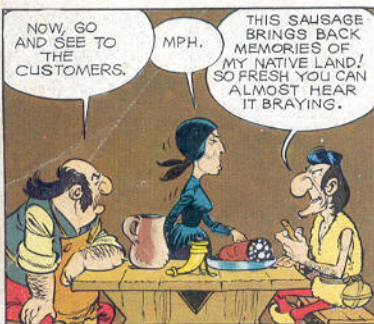
OH, VERY CLEVER OBELIX!



YOU DON'T CATCH US BONY CHARACTERS NAPPING, ASTERIX-OCELLIX!



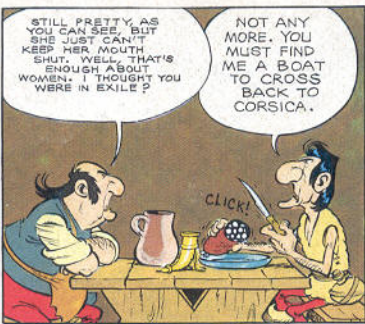




NOW, GO AND SEE TO THE CUSTOMERS.

MPH.

THIS SAUSAGE BRINGS BACK MEMORIES OF MY NATIVE LAND! SO FRESH YOU CAN ALMOST HEAR IT BRAYING.

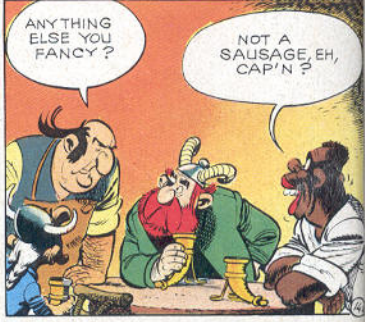
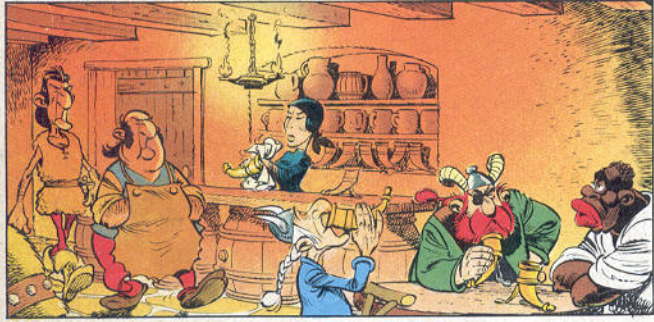


STILL PRETTY, AS YOU CAN SEE, BUT SHE JUST CAN'T KEEP HER MOUTH SHUT. WELL, THAT'S ENOUGH ABOUT WOMEN. I THOUGHT YOU WERE IN EXILE?

NOT ANY MORE. YOU MUST FIND ME A BOAT TO CROSS BACK TO CORSICA.



IT WON'T BE EASY. THE ROMANS ARE WATCHING THE PORT. BUT I'VE GOT SOME SAILORS IN THERE WHO SEEM TO BE PRETTY COOL. CUSTOMERS. COME ON.



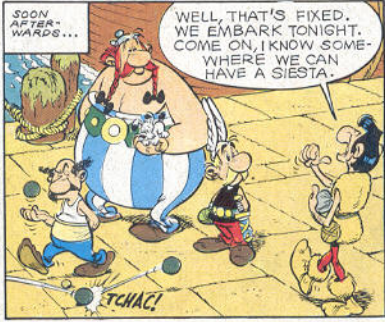
ANYTHING ELSE YOU FANCY?

NOT A SAUSAGE, EH, CAP'N?



I'D LIKE TO MAKE YOU AN OFFER - WILL YOU TAKE SOME MEN ON BOARD FOR CORSICA? VERY DISCREETLY, NAME YOUR PRICE.

THE PRICE IS RIGHT, BUT THEY'LL NEED GOLD FOR SHIP-BOARD EXPENSES.

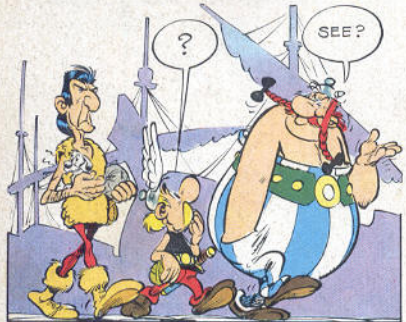


SOON AFTERWARDS...

WELL, THAT'S FIXED. WE EMBARK TONIGHT. COME ON, I KNOW SOMEWHERE WE CAN HAVE A SIESTA.



HEY, YOU!



?

SEE?



HARRGH HARRGH HARRGH! PASSENGERS, WITH LOTS OF GOLD. ONCE AT SEA, WE'LL CLEAN THEM OUT AND MAKE THEM WALK THE PLANK. NO MORE BOARDING SHIPS FOR US, WE'RE GOING IN FOR OVERBOARDING!

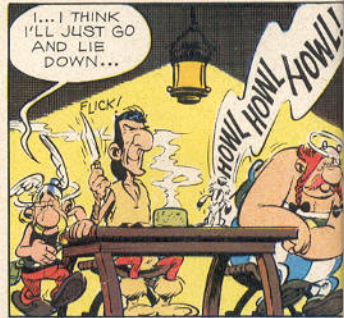
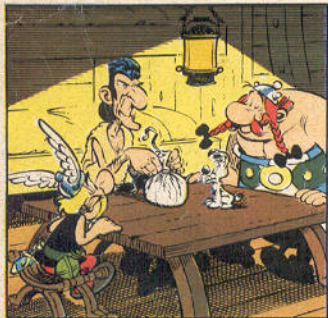
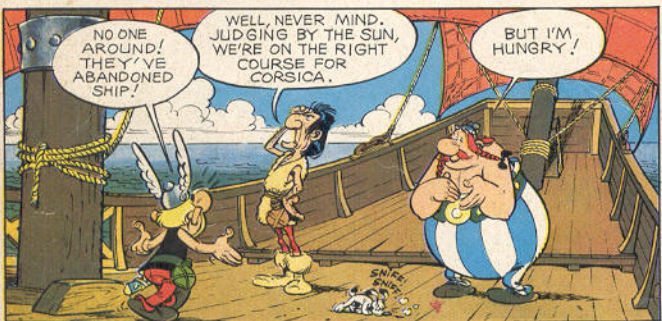
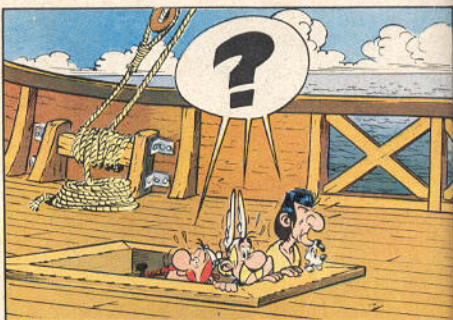
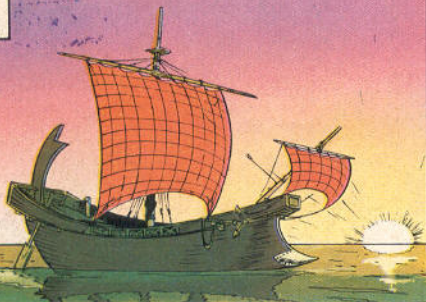
O TEMPORA, O MORES!

AND MORE'S THE WORD.

THAT NIGHT...

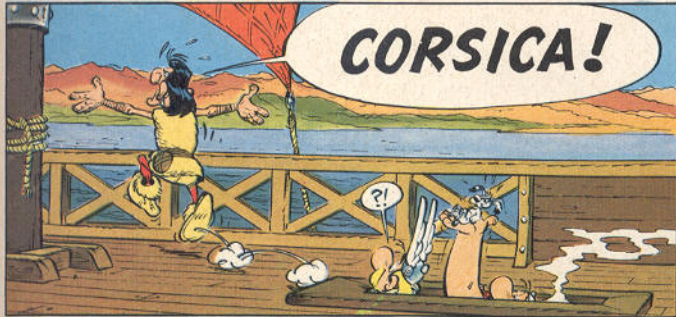


NEXT MORNING...

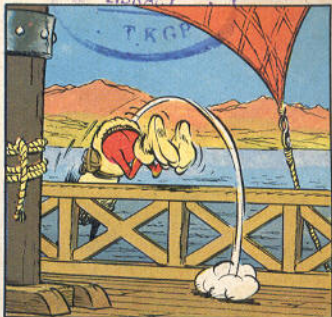


SUCH A DELICATE, SUBTLE AROMA, CALLING TO MIND THYME AND ALMOND TREES, FIG TREES, CHESTNUT TREES... AND THEN AGAIN, THE FINEST HINT OF PINES, A TOUCH OF TARRAGON, A SUGGESTION OF ROSEMARY AND LAVENDER... AH, MY FRIENDS, THAT AROMA...

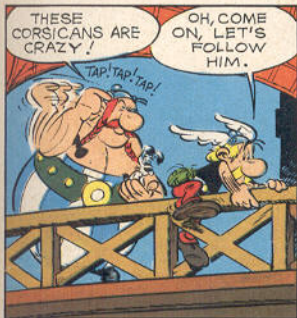




CORSICA!



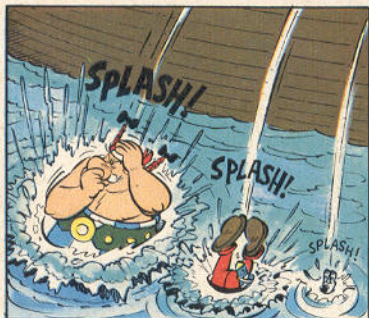
LIBRA Y



THESE CORSICANS ARE CRAZY!

OH, COME ON, LET'S FOLLOW HIM.

TAP! TAP! TAP!



SPLASH!

SPLASH!

SPLASH!

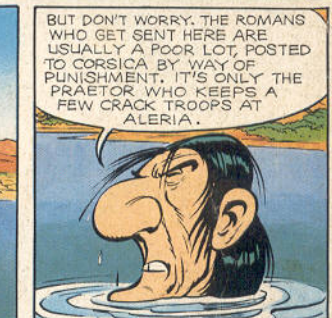


SMELL THAT WATER? THAT MARVELLOUS SCENT OF LOBSTER, SEA URCHIN AND SHRIMP!



PERSONALLY, I THINK IT SMELLS OF ROMANS... ISN'T THAT A FORTIFIED ROMAN CAMP OVER THERE?

YES, THERE ARE CAMPS ALL ROUND THE SHORES OF THE ISLANDS. IT'S WHEN THEY TRY GETTING INTO THE MAQUIS IN THE INTERIOR THE ROMANS HAVE PROBLEMS.



BUT DON'T WORRY. THE ROMANS WHO GET SENT HERE ARE USUALLY A POOR LOT, POSTED TO CORSICA BY WAY OF PUNISHMENT. IT'S ONLY THE PRAETOR WHO KEEPS A FEW CRACK TROOPS AT ALERIA.



SEE THAT? WE'D BETTER LET THE CENTURION KNOW!

YEAH... ANYWAY, DON'T LET'S HANG AROUND HERE.

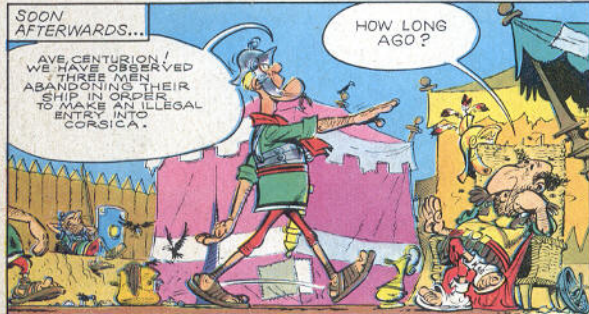
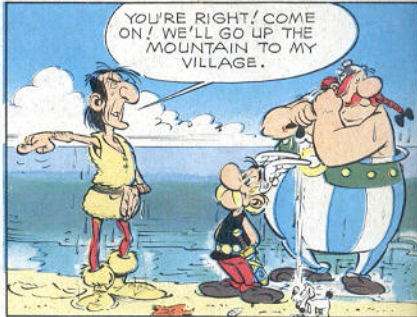
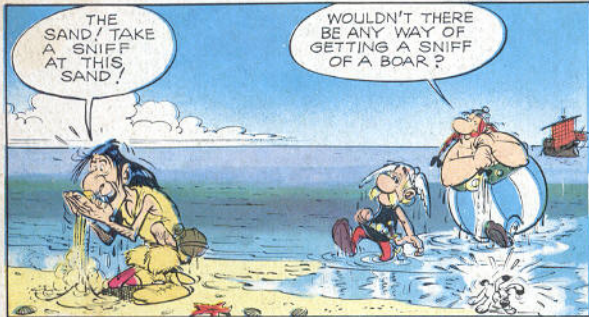


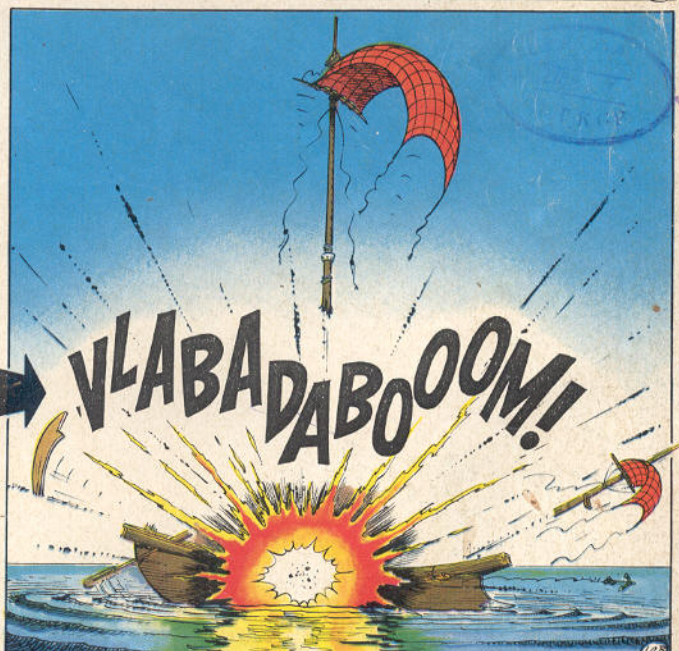
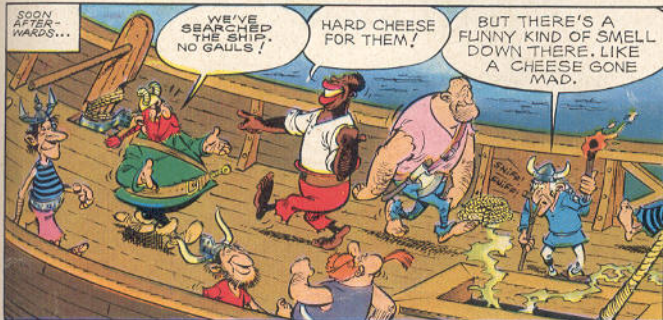
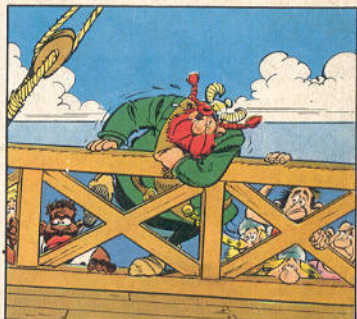
HURRY UP CAN'T YOU?

TAKE IT EASY NOW... JUST TAKE IT EASY!



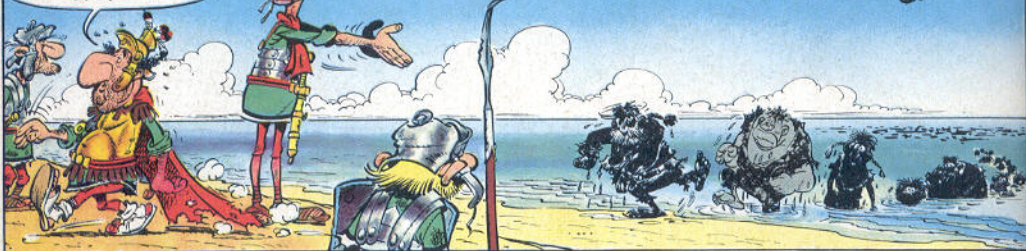
YOU'RE NEW HERE, SO TAKE IT VERY, VERY EASY AND I'LL EXPLAIN THINGS.





RIGHT, THERE'S NOTHING LEFT FOR US TO DO HERE. WE'RE OFF.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, WE'RE OFF? WHAT ABOUT THIS?

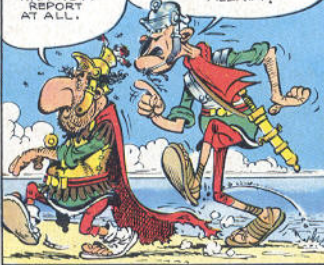


WELL, WHAT ABOUT IT? A SHIP ARRIVES. THREE CHARACTERS DIVE INTO THE SEA. THE SHIP'S ABANDONED. IT BLOWS UP. ANOTHER SET OF CHARACTERS COME SWIMMING ASHORE...



MERE COMMONPLACE. HARDLY WORTH WRITING A REPORT AT ALL.

I DISAGREE, CENTURION. WE OUGHT TO WARN PRAETOR PERPIDIUS AT ALERIA!



**BY JUPITER AND MERCURY!
ARE YOU LOOKING FOR TROUBLE,
COURTING DISASTUS?
WELL, YOU CAN HAVE IT!
YOU CAN
ESCORT THESE
IDIOTS TO
ALERIA!**



MEANWHILE...



MY VILLAGE IS QUITE CLOSE.

IS HE FROM YOUR VILLAGE?

YES, THAT'S LETHARGIX, OUR DRUID. HE'S BUSY GATHERING MISTLETOE.

THAT'S THE WAY HE GATHERS MISTLETOE?



YES, HE'S WAITING FOR IT TO FALL OFF THE TREE.

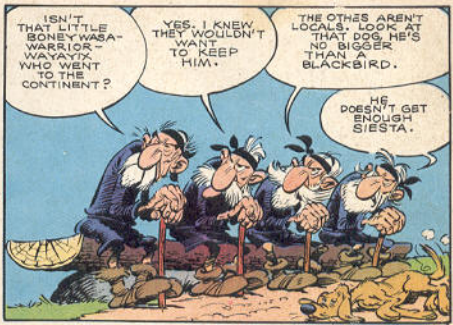
Toc!
Toc!
Toc!





OH, LOOK!
TAME BOARS!

NO, THOSE
ARE WILD
PIGS.

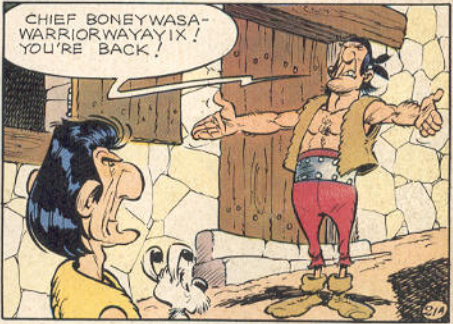


ISN'T
THAT LITTLE
BONEYWASA-
WARRIOR-
WAYAYIX
WHO WENT
TO THE
CONTINENT?

YES, I KNEW
THEY WOULDN'T
WANT
TO KEEP
HIM.

THE OTHERS AREN'T
LOCALS. LOOK AT
THAT GUY. HE'S
NO BIGGER
THAN A
BLACKBIRD.

HE
DOESN'T GET
ENOUGH
SIESTA.

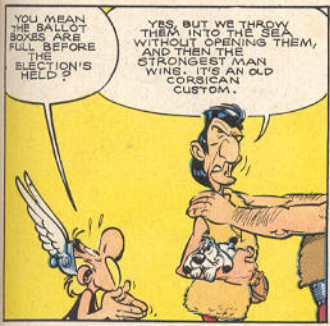


CHIEF BONEYWASA-
WARRIORWAYAYIX!
YOU'RE BACK!



PLEASED TO
SEE YOU,
CARFERIX.

TO THINK WE WERE
JUST ABOUT TO
HOLD ELECTIONS
FOR A NEW CHIEF.
THE BALLOT BOXES
ARE ALREADY
FULL.



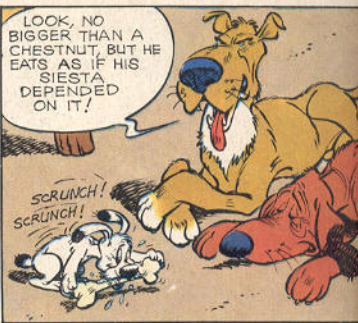
YOU MEAN
THE BALLOT
BOXES ARE
FULL BEFORE
THE
ELECTION'S
HELD?

YES, BUT WE THROW
THEM INTO THE SEA
WITHOUT OPENING THEM,
AND THEN THE
STRONGEST MAN
WINS. IT'S AN OLD
CORSIKAN
CUSTOM.



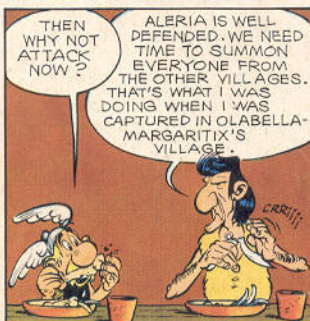
MEET
ASTERIX, OBELIX
AND DOGMATIX.
THEY'VE COME
TO SEE HOW WE
DEAL WITH THE
ROMANS.

WHY NOT
COME AND HAVE
SOME WILD
PIG AT MY
PLACE?



WELL, HOW ARE THINGS GOING?

THE WAREHOUSES OF ALERIA ARE FULL OF THE LOOT PRAETOR PER-FIDILIUS HAS TAKEN. THERE ISN'T MUCH TIME LEFT, THE PRAETOR WILL SOON BE RECALLED TO ROME.



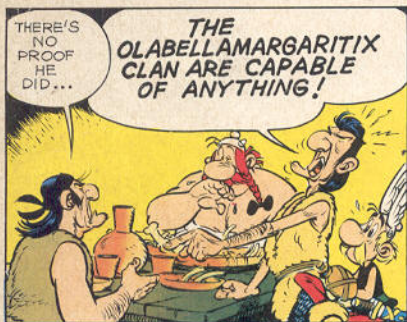
THEN WHY NOT ATTACK NOW?

ALERIA IS WELL DEFENDED. WE NEED TIME TO SUMMON EVERYONE FROM THE OTHER VILLAGES. THAT'S WHAT I WAS DOING WHEN I WAS CAPTURED IN OLABELLA-MARGARITIX'S VILLAGE.



OLABELLA-MARGARITIX?

MY CLAN AND OLABELLA-MARGARITIX'S CLAN HAVE A VENDETTA GOING, BUT I NEVER THOUGHT HE'D BETRAY ME TO THE ROMANS.



THERE'S NO PROOF HE DID...

THE OLABELLAMARGARITIX CLAN ARE CAPABLE OF ANYTHING!



WHAT'S THE VENDETTA ABOUT?

NO ONE'S TOO SURE ANY MORE...



THE OLD FOLK SAY BONEY WAS A WARRIOR WAYAYIX'S GREAT-UNCLE MARRIED A GIRL FROM THE VIOLONCELLIX CLAN, AND A COUSIN BY MARRIAGE OF ONE OF OLABELLA-MARGARITIX'S GRANDFATHERS WAS IN LOVE WITH HER...



BUT OTHERS SAY IT WAS BECAUSE OF A DONKEY, WHICH OLABELLA-MARGARITIX'S GREAT-GRANDFATHER REFUSED TO PAY FOR WHEN HE GOT HIM FROM THE BROTHER-IN-LAW OF A CLOSE FRIEND OF THE BONEY WAS A WARRIOR WAYAYIX CLAN, CLAIMING THAT HE WAS LAME. THE DONKEY NOT THE BONEY WAS A WARRIOR WAYAYIX'S FRIEND'S BROTHER-IN-LAW...



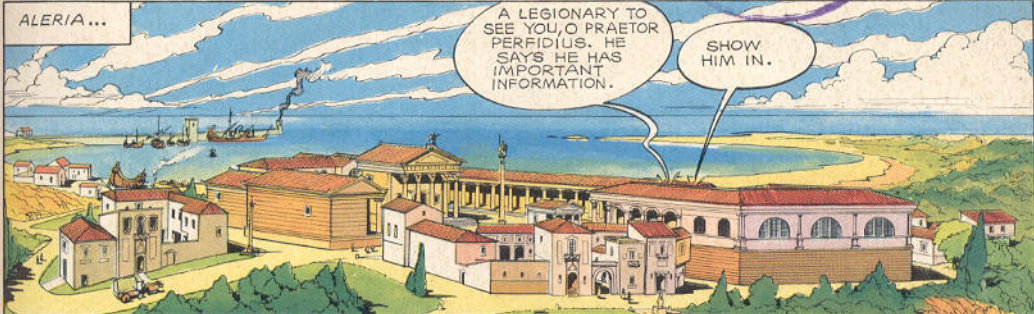
... ANYWAY, IT'S VERY SERIOUS.

?

ALERIA...

A LEGIONARY TO SEE YOU, O PRAETOR PERFUDDIX. HE SAYS HE HAS IMPORTANT INFORMATION.

SHOW HIM IN.



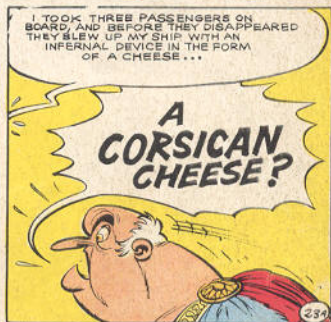
AVE, PRAETOR! THIS MAN WANTS TO SPIN YOU A YARN.

NO, I DON'T! I'M AN HONEST SAILOR WORKING THE MASSILIA-CORSICA CROSSING...



I TOOK THREE PASSENGERS ON BOARD, AND BEFORE THEY DISAPPEARED THEY BLEW UP MY SHIP WITH AN INFERNAL DEVICE IN THE FORM OF A CHEESE...

**A
CORSICAN
CHEESE?**



ANYWAY ONE OF THE PASSENGERS WAS CORSICAN... THEY CALLED HIM BONEYWASAWARRIOR PONTIDLYPOM.

WAYAYIX?!

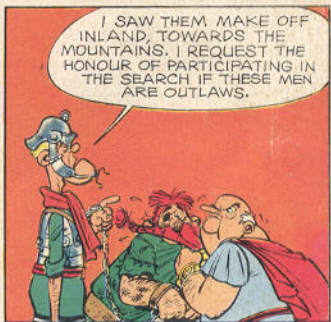


YES, THAT'S RIGHT. NOT PONTIDLYPOM, WAYAYIX. THERE WERE TWO GAULS WITH HIM, TWO REAL THREATS TO SHIPPING WHO...

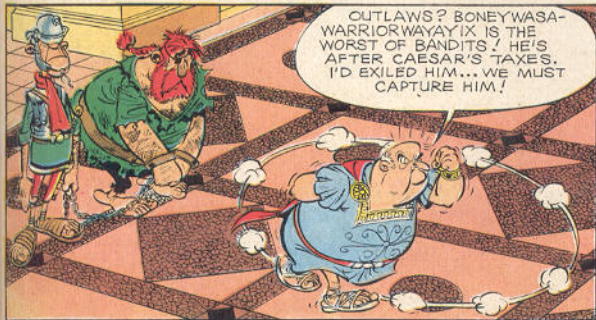
**WHERE
DID THEY
GO?**



I SAW THEM MAKE OFF INLAND TOWARDS THE MOUNTAINS. I REQUEST THE HONOUR OF PARTICIPATING IN THE SEARCH IF THESE MEN ARE OUTLAWS.

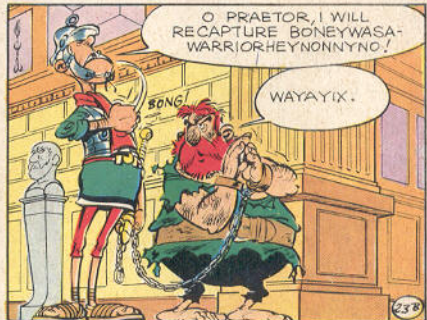


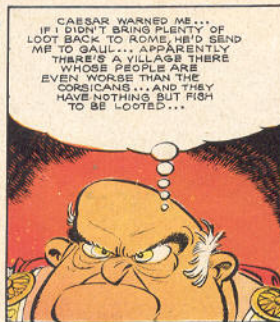
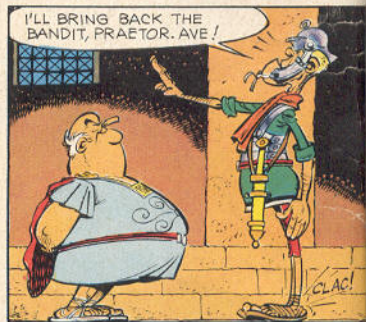
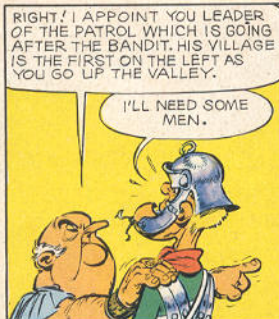
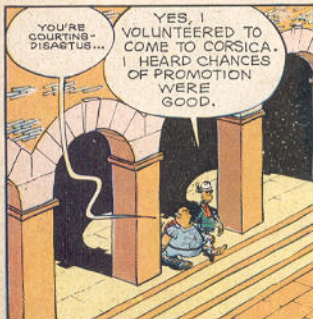
OUTLAWS? BONEYWASA-WARRIORWAYAYIX IS THE WORST OF BANDITS! HE'S AFTER CAESAR'S TAXES. I'D EXILED HIM... WE MUST CAPTURE HIM!



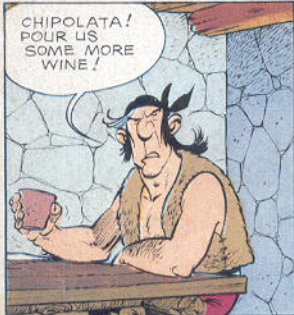
O PRAETOR, I WILL RECAPTURE BONEYWASA-WARRIORHEYNONNYNO!

WAYAYIX.

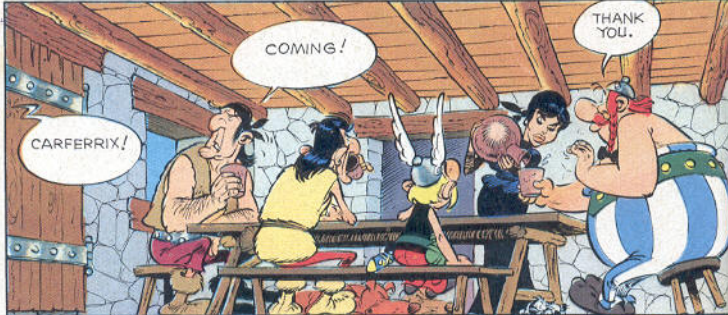








CHIPOLATA!
POUR US
SOME MORE
WINE!



CARFERRIX!

COMING!

THANK
YOU.



TELL YOUR FRIEND TO
WATCH OUT. CARFERRIX
DOESN'T LIKE PEOPLE
BEING DISRESPECTFUL
TO HIS
SISTER.

BUT HE
DIDN'T DO
ANYTHING
DIS-
RESPECTFUL.



YES, HE DID. HE
SPOKE TO HER, HE
SMILED, TOO, SO
WATCH OUT!

!?!



BONEY WAS A WARRIOR WAYAYIX,
THERE ARE SOME
ROMANS COMING.

RIGHT!
WE'LL BE
OFF TO THE
MAQUIS.



THE
MAQUIS?

YES, THE ROMANS
WILL GET LOST
THERE, YOU WAIT
AND SEE.

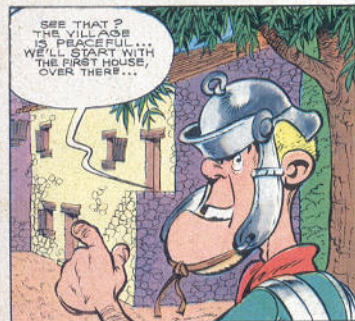


HE
CERTAINLY
WON'T!

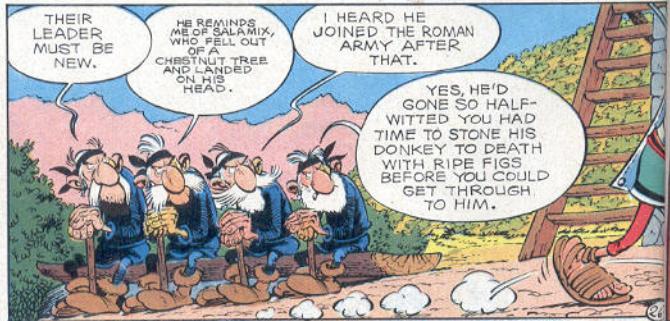
I TAKE
NO FURTHER
INTEREST IN
THE MATTER.

SAME
HERE. IT'S
NONE OF MY
BUSINESS.

GET
READY TO
PICK HIM UP
HE WON'T BE
EXPECTING
THIS!



SEE THAT?
THE VILLAGE
IS PEACEFUL...
WE'LL START WITH
THE FIRST HOUSE,
OVER THERE...

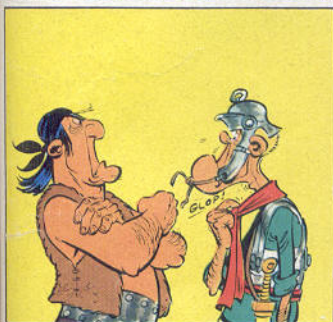
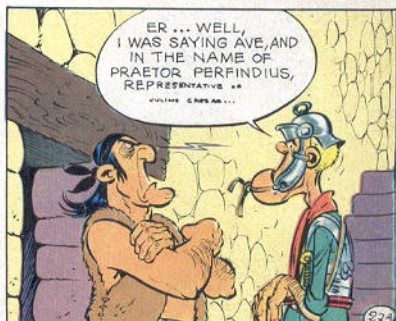
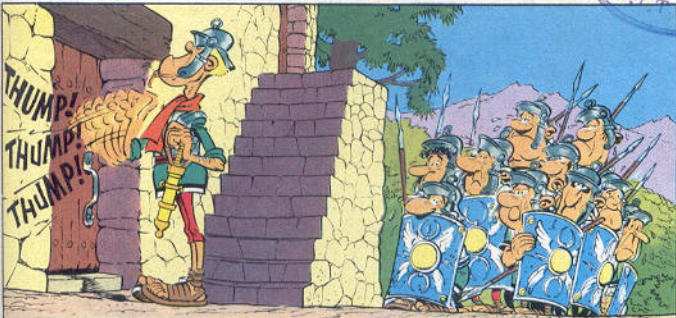


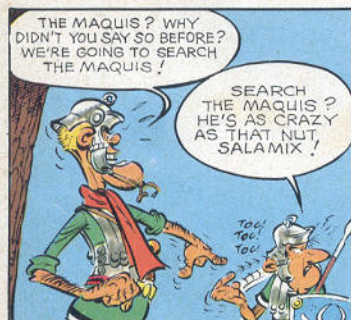
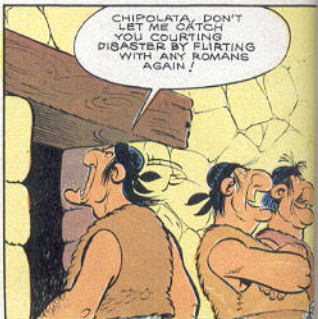
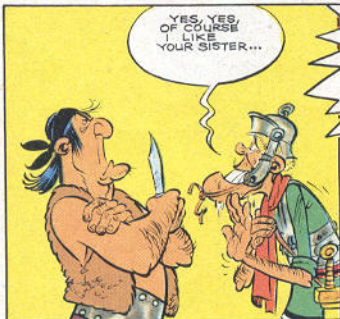
THEIR
LEADER
MUST BE
NEW.

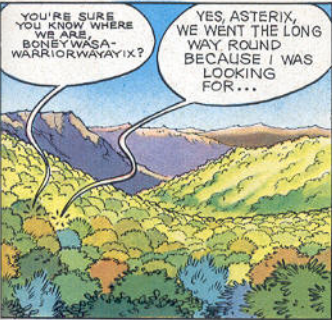
HE REMINDS
ME OF SALAMIX,
WHO FELL OUT
OF A
CHESTNUT TREE
AND LANDED
ON HIS
HEAD.

I HEARD HE
JOINED THE
ROMAN
ARMY AFTER
THAT.

YES, HE'D
GONE SO HALF-
WITTED YOU HAD
TIME TO STONE
HIS DONKEY TO DEATH
WITH RIPE FIGS
BEFORE YOU COULD
GET THROUGH
TO HIM.







YOU'RE SURE YOU KNOW WHERE WE ARE, BONEYWASA-WARRIORWAYAYIX?

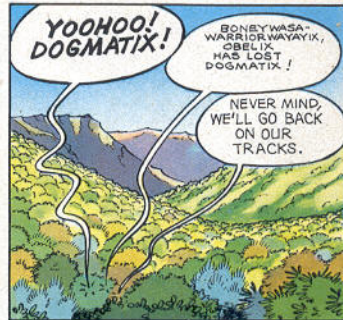
YES, ASTERIX, WE WENT THE LONG WAY ROUND BECAUSE I WAS LOOKING FOR...



AH, HERE IT IS ! A SESTERTIUS I LOST LAST TIME I WAS AROUND HERE.

OBELIX, DON'T GO TOO FAR OFF !

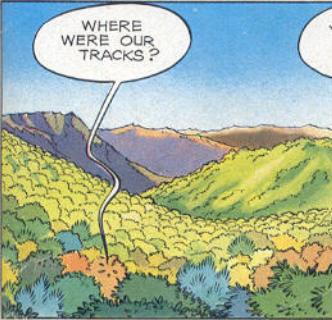
IT'S DOGMATIX . HE WAS HERE JUST NOW, AND...



YOOHOO! DOGMATIX!

BONEYWASA-WARRIORWAYAYIX, OBELIX HAS LOST DOGMATIX !

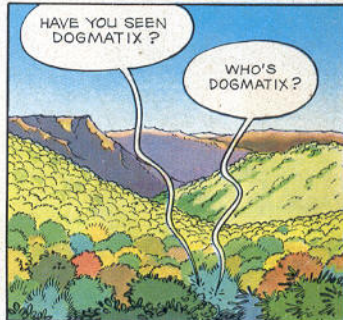
NEVER MIND, WE'LL GO BACK ON OUR TRACKS.



WHERE WERE OUR TRACKS ?

HEAR THAT ? VOICES ! WE'RE ON THE RIGHT TRACK !

COURTING-DISASTERS ! DON'T MAKE ANY NOISE !



HAVE YOU SEEN DOGMATIX ?

WHO'S DOGMATIX ?



ASTERIX, THERE'S SOMEONE HERE WHO DOESN'T KNOW DOGMATIX .

GLUG GLUG GLUG...

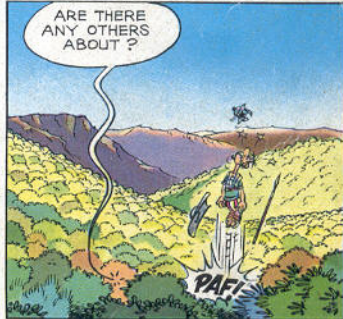


WHAT WERE YOU DRINKING, ASTERIX ?

A LITTLE MAGIC POTION, BONEYWASA-WARRIORWAYAYIX . WHERE ARE THEY OBELIX ?

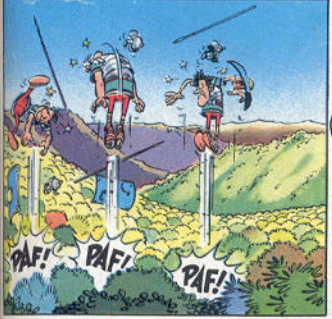
GOT ONE, ASTERIX !

SO HAVE I, BY JUPITER !

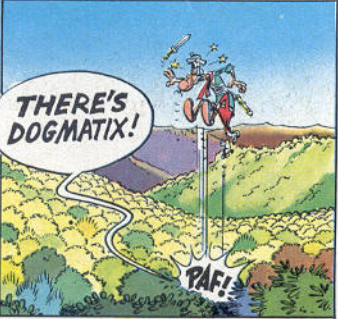


ARE THERE ANY OTHERS ABOUT ?

PAF!

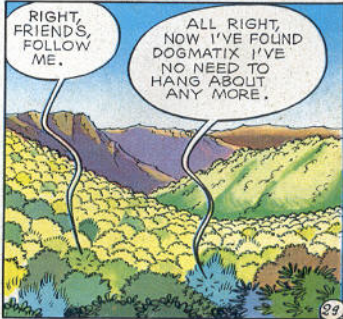


PAF! PAF! PAF!



THERE'S DOGMATIX!

PAF!



RIGHT, FRIENDS, FOLLOW ME .

ALL RIGHT, NOW I'VE FOUND DOGMATIX I'VE NO NEED TO HANG ABOUT ANY MORE .

WE'RE GOING BACK TO MAKE OUR REPORT TO PRAETOR PERFDIUS, AND THEN WE'LL BE BACK IN FORCE TO PICK UP THESE BANDITS!

YOU IDIOT, WE'VE GOT FIND OUT HOW TO GET BACK FIRST!

LET'S HOLD HANDS, BOYS.

BY JUPITER, THIS PLACE IS SWARMING WITH PIGS!

**A ROMAN ROAD!
OH, FOR A ROMAN ROAD!**

ON TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN...

WELL, IF YOU'D PICKED UP A FEW YOURSELF I WOULDN'T HAVE TO LEND YOU SOME OF MINE.

YOU PIG!

WE'LL SHELTER IN THIS CAVE.

NOW ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS WAIT FOR THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE OTHER CLANS, AND THEN WE ORGANISE OUR ATTACK ON ALERIA. THE PEOPLE OF MY VILLAGE HAVE SENT THEM WORD.

LET'S HOPE THE PRAETOR DOESN'T HAVE TIME TO GET HIS LOOT TO SAFETY!

SCRUNCH!
SCRUNCH!

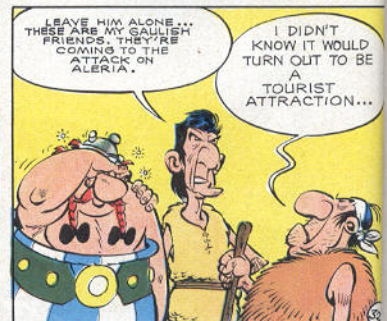
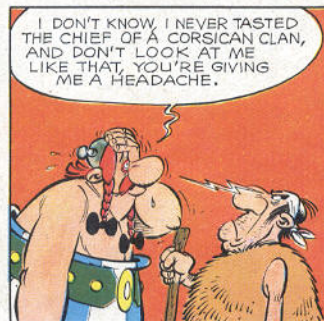
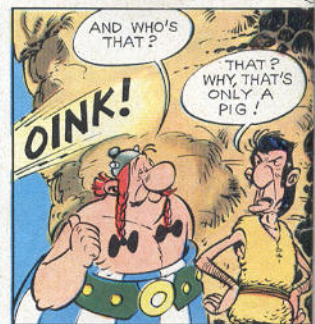
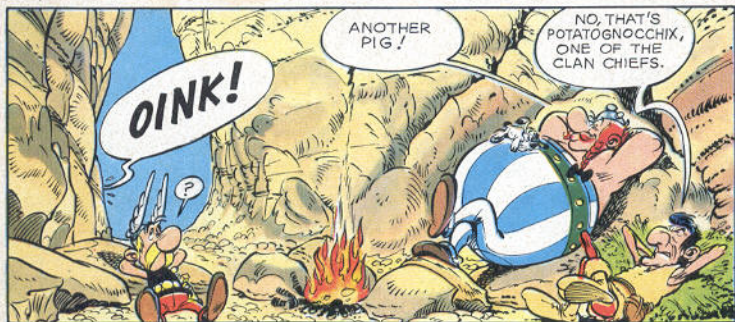
ANYWAY, WE LIKE THE MAQUIS, DOGMATIX AND ME. IT'S FULL OF PIGS AND ROMANS!

GRF!

IN THE PRAETOR'S OFFICE IN ALERIA...

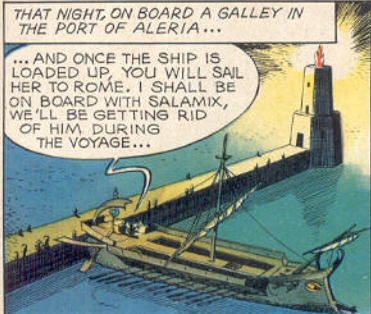
THE FACT THAT YOU ARE THE ONLY NATIVE CORSICAN LEGIONARY MAKES YOU IDEAL FOR THIS SECRET MISSION. SERVE ME WELL AND YOU WON'T REGRET IT, SALAMIX!

YEAH, SURE!



THAT NIGHT, ON BOARD A GALLEY IN THE PORT OF ALERIA...

... AND ONCE THE SHIP IS LOADED UP, YOU WILL SAIL HER TO ROME. I SHALL BE ON BOARD WITH SALAMIX, WE'LL BE GETTING RID OF HIM DURING THE VOYAGE...



IT ALL HAS TO BE DONE TONIGHT... THE GARRISON MUSTN'T KNOW I'M ABANDONING THEM. THEY WILL FIGHT, AND THUS COVER MY ESCAPE...

AND AFTERWARDS YOU'LL GIVE US THE SHIP AND SET US FREE? THAT'S A PROMISE?

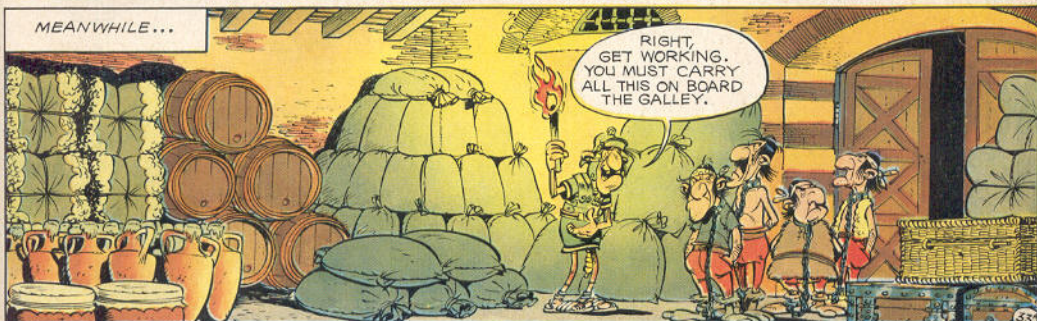


WHAT REASON CAN YOU HAVE TO DOUBT MY GOOD FAITH?

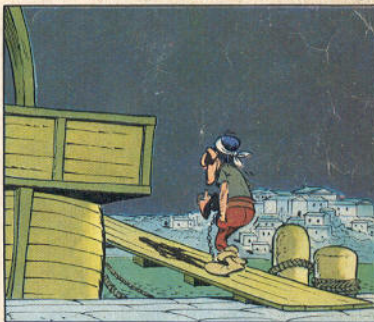


MEANWHILE...

RIGHT, GET WORKING. YOU MUST CARRY ALL THIS ON BOARD THE GALLEY.

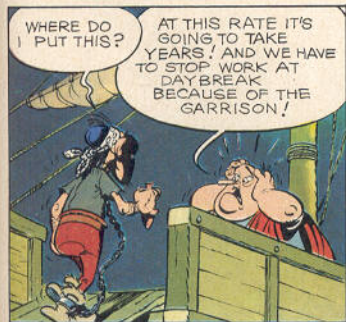


TWENTY MINUTES LATER...



WHERE DO I PUT THIS?

AT THIS RATE IT'S GOING TO TAKE YEARS! AND WE HAVE TO STOP WORK AT DAYBREAK BECAUSE OF THE GARRISON!



THERE'S NO HURRY, BOYS. WE'VE GOT YEARS TO FINISH THE JOB, AND WE DON'T NEED TO DO ANYTHING DURING THE DAY.

I'VE GOT A COUSIN WHO HAS A JOB LIKE THAT, IN THE CIVIL SERVICE IN MASSLIA.



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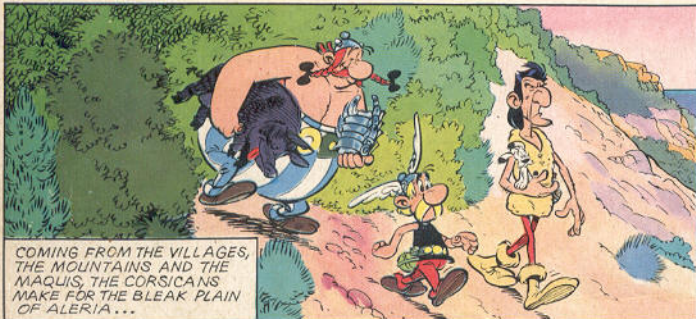
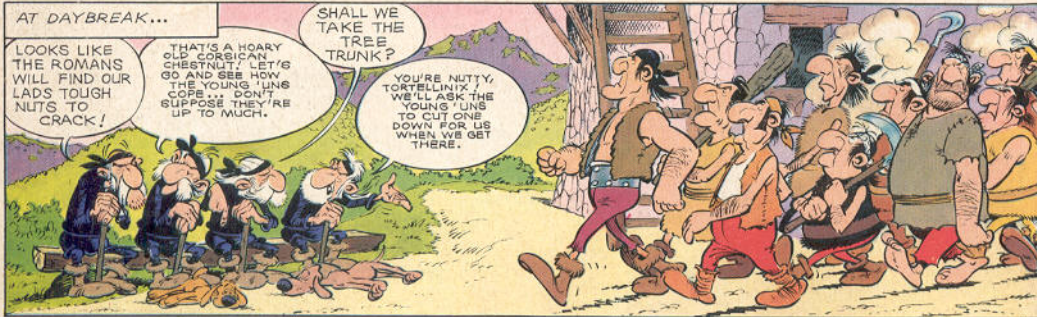
AT DAYBREAK...

LOOKS LIKE THE ROMANS WILL FIND OUR LADS TOUGH NUTS TO CRACK!

THAT'S A HOARY OLD CORSICAN CHESTNUT! LET'S GO AND SEE HOW THE YOUNG 'UNS CORSE... DON'T SUPPOSE THEY'RE UP TO MUCH.

SHALL WE TAKE THE TREE TRUNK?

YOU'RE NUTTY, TORTELLINIX! WE'LL ASK THE YOUNG 'UNS TO CUT ONE DOWN FOR US WHEN WE GET THERE.

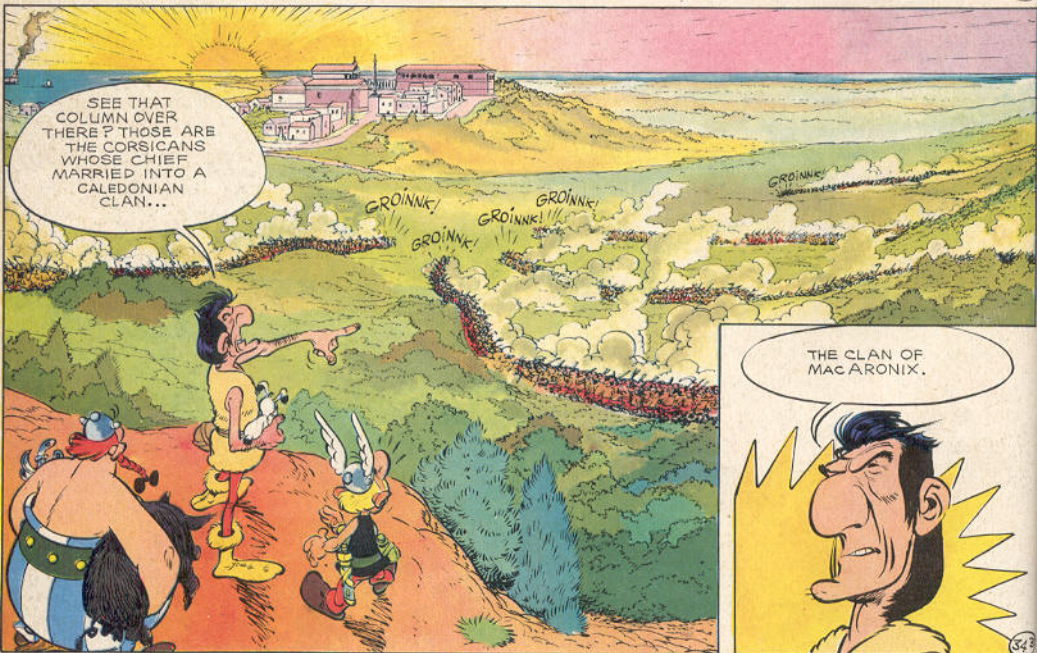


COMING FROM THE VILLAGES, THE MOUNTAINS AND THE MAQUIS, THE CORSICANS MAKE FOR THE BLEAK PLAIN OF ALER/IA...



WHAT A LOT OF THEM!

YES, WE'RE FULL OF CLAN FEELING.



SEE THAT COLUMN OVER THERE? THOSE ARE THE CORSICANS WHOSE CHIEF MARRIED INTO A CALEDONIAN CLAN...

GROINK! GROINK! GROINK! GROINK!

THE CLAN OF MAC ARONIX.

HULLO, SALAMIX, GOING ON DUTY?

NO FEAR! I'VE BEEN WORKING ALL NIGHT.

YOU'VE BEEN WORKING ALL NIGHT?

WHAT AT?

I'M NOT SAYING! THE PRAETOR TOLD ME NOT TO TELL ANYONE WE WERE CLEARING THE WAREHOUSES.

WHAT WAS THAT? THE PRAETOR'S HAVING THE WAREHOUSES CLEARED... IN SECRET?

YOU THINK HE INTENDS TO ESCAPE AND LEAVE US HERE?

WHO TOLD YOU WE WERE LOADING EVERYTHING UP ON A GALLEY BEFORE THE CORSICANS ATTACK? COME ON, WHO TOLD YOU?

SOON AFTERWARDS...

WE WANT TO SEE PRAETOR PERFIDIUS!

?

WHAT'S ALL THIS NOISE, BY JUPITER?

YOU'RE CLEARING THE WAREHOUSES!

YOU'RE GOING TO LEAVE US TO FACE THE CORSICANS!

THE CORSICANS ARE GOING TO ATTACK!

WHO TOLD YOU ALL THESE STORIES?

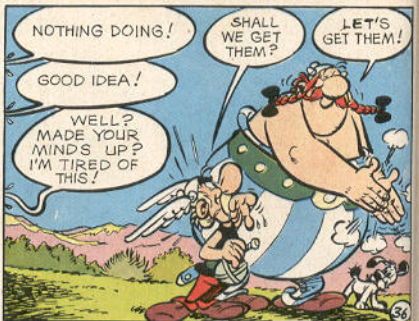
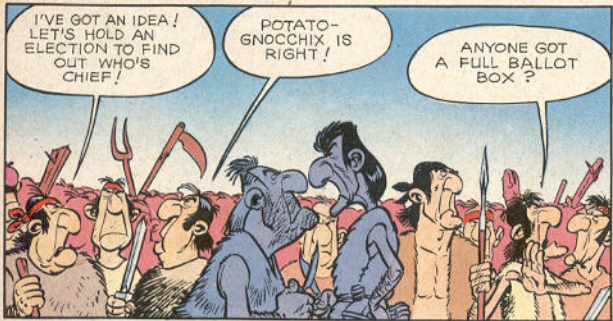
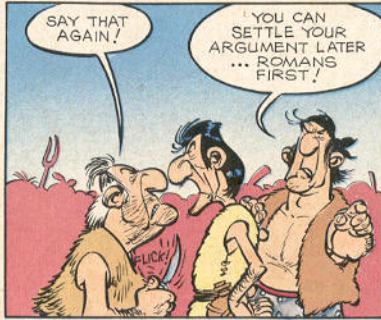
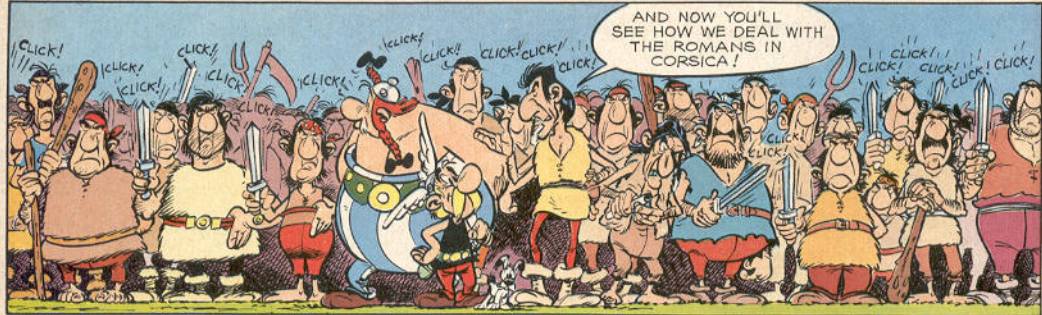
YES, THAT'S WHAT I'D LIKE TO KNOW TOO! MAYBE IT WAS THE CAPTAIN OF THE GALLEY WE'RE GOING TO USE TO ESCAPE AND...

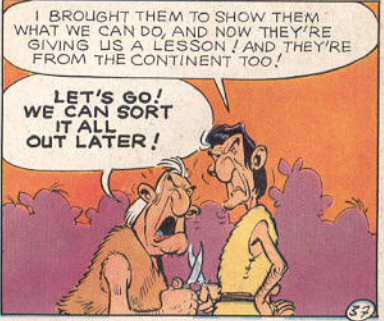
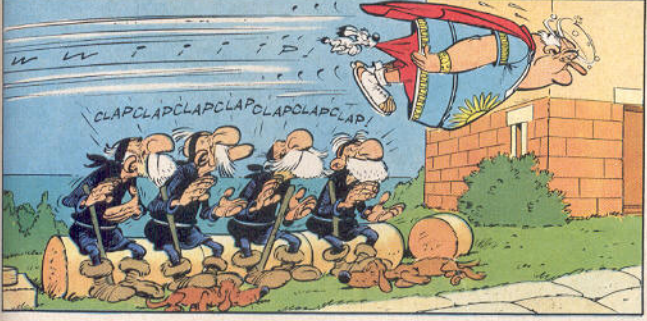
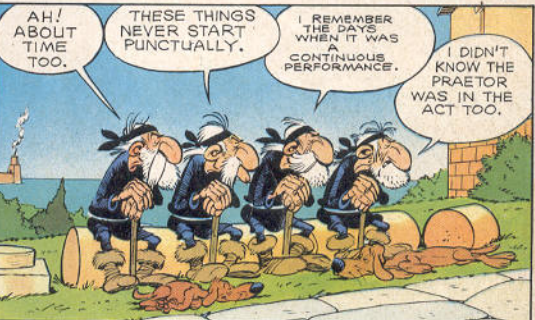
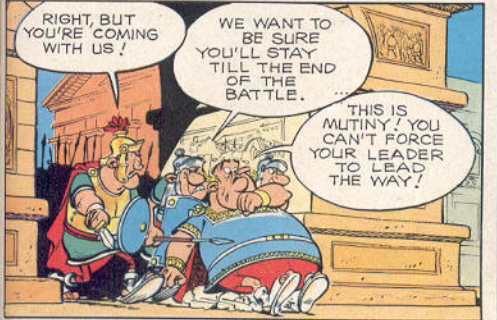
SHUT UP!!

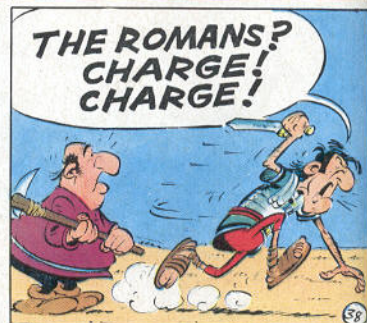
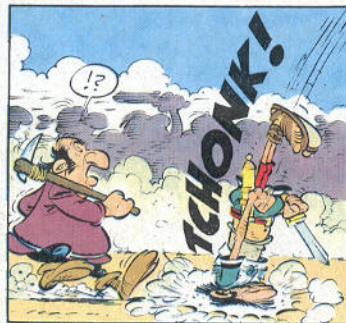
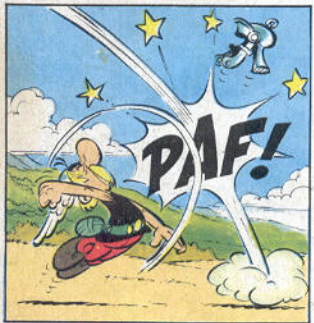
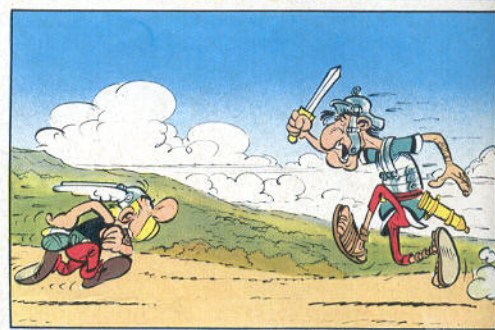
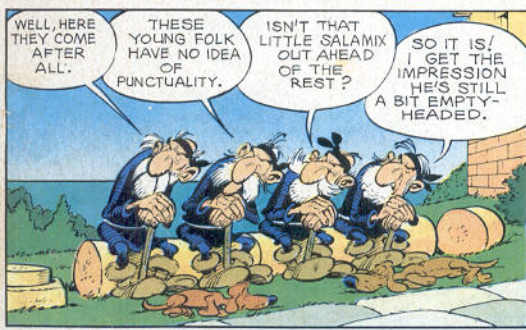
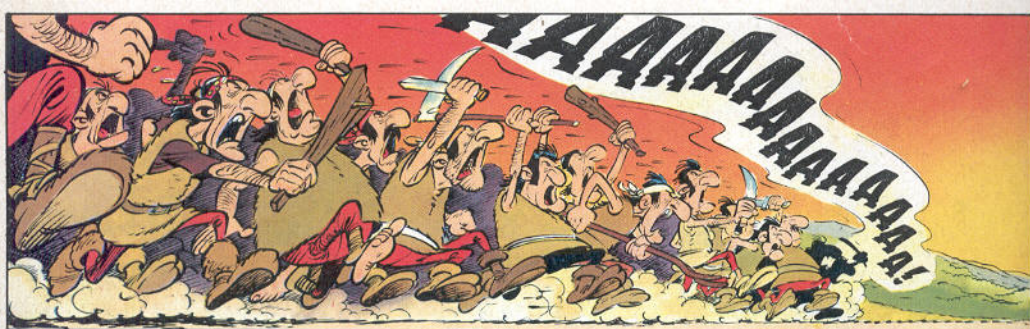
BOYS, BOYS! THE CORSICANS AREN'T GOING TO ATTACK! YOU MUSTN'T BELIEVE BIRDS OF ILL OMEN!

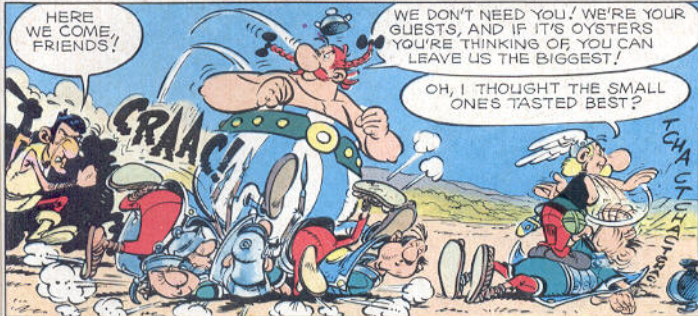
AT THE GATES OF ALERIA...

THIS'LL DO US NICELY.









HERE WE COME, FRIENDS!

WE DON'T NEED YOU 'S WE'RE YOUR GUESTS, AND IF IT'S OYSTERS YOU'RE THINKING OF, YOU CAN LEAVE US THE BIGGEST!

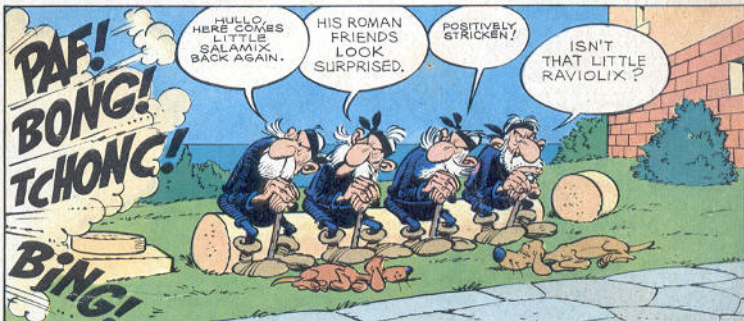
OH, I THOUGHT THE SMALL ONES TASTED BEST?



HEAR THAT? RATHER A TEASE, ISN'T HE?



TEASE?



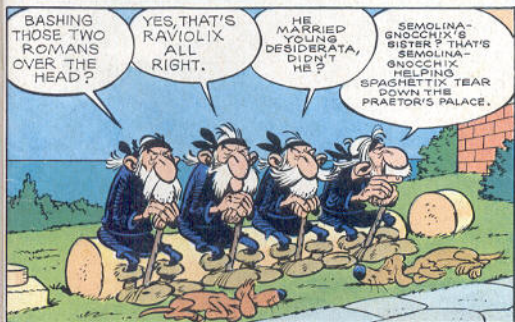
PAF!
BONG!
TCHONG!
BING!

HULLO, HERE COMES LITTLE SALAMIX BACK AGAIN.

HIS ROMAN FRIENDS LOOK SURPRISED.

POSITIVELY STRICKEN!

ISN'T THAT LITTLE RAVIOLIX?



BASHING THOSE TWO ROMANS OVER THE HEAD?

YES, THAT'S RAVIOLIX ALL RIGHT.

HE MARRIED YOUNG DESIDERATA, DIDN'T HE?

SEMOLINA-GNOCCHIX'S SISTER? THAT'S SEMOLINA-GNOCCHIX HELPING SPAGHETTIX TEAR DOWN THE PRAETOR'S PALACE.

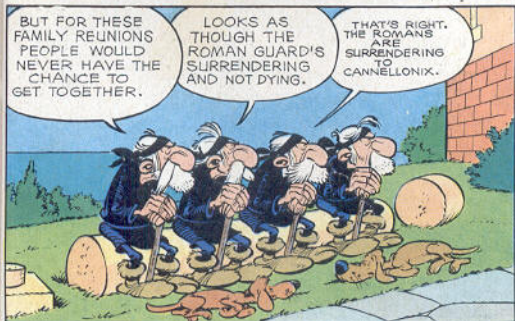


ISN'T SPAGHETTIX A COUSIN OF FETTUCINIX OVER THERE, CHASING THOSE FOUR ROMANS WITH A SWORD?

NO, FETTUCINIX IS TAGLIATELLIX'S COUSIN.

SPAGHETTIX'S COUSIN IS LASAGNIX.

THAT'S HIM BITING THE CENTURION.



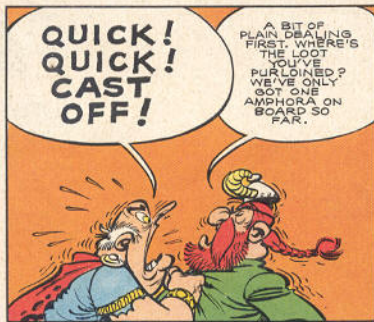
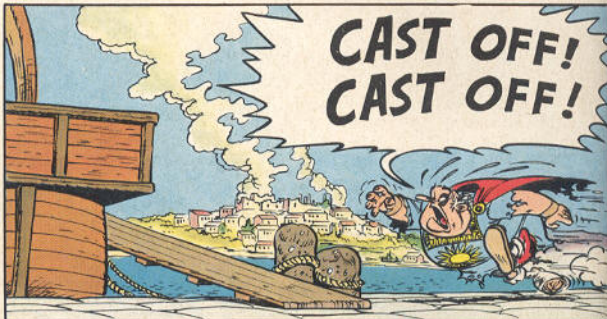
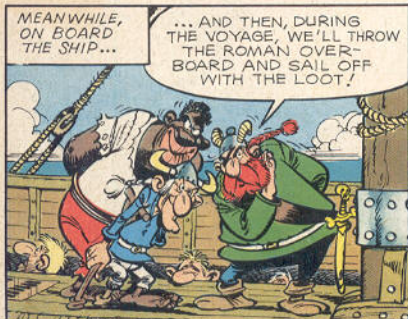
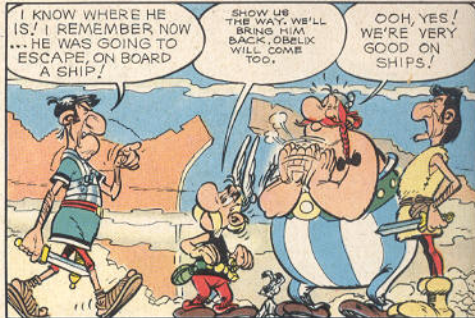
BUT FOR THESE FAMILY REUNIONS PEOPLE WOULD NEVER HAVE THE CHANCE TO GET TOGETHER.

LOOKS AS THOUGH THE ROMAN GUARD'S SURRENDERING AND NOT DYING.

THAT'S RIGHT. THE ROMANS ARE SURRENDERING TO CANNELLONIX.



BY THE WAY, HOW'S CANNELLONIX'S WIFE ERRATA?



AFTER A BRIEF
BUT VIOLENT
EPISODE...

WELL,
DO WE CAST
OFF?

NO POINT
CASTING PEARLS
BEFORE SWINE
NOW...

IS THAT
MEANT TO HAVE
US IN STITCHES?
CAP'IN, WITH
DUE RESPECT, YOU'RE
A SILLY
KNIT.



PRAETOR, WE WILL
ALLOW YOU AND YOUR
MEN TO LIVE, SO THAT
YOU CAN TELL
CAESAR WHAT YOU
HAVE SEEN!

WE SHALL RECOVER ALL
YOU HAVE STOLEN FROM
YOUR WAREHOUSES, AND
LET THAT BE A LESSON TO
YOUR MASTER!

JULIUS
CAESAR WILL
HAVE HIS
REVENGE!

TELL CAESAR THAT, NO
MATTER WHAT HIS AMBITIONS,
HE WILL NEVER
RULE US...

THE PEOPLE OF CORSICA
WILL NEVER ACCEPT AN
EMPEROR UNLESS HE
IS A CORSICAN
HIMSELF! GO!

THAT'S
RIGHT!
OINK!

THREE
CHEERS!

NOW HOW ABOUT A
FEW EXPLANATIONS,
BONEYWASAWARRIORWAYAYIX?

YES, OLABELLA-
MARGARITIX!

WHY DID YOU ACCUSE ME OF BETRAYING YOU TO THE ROMANS?

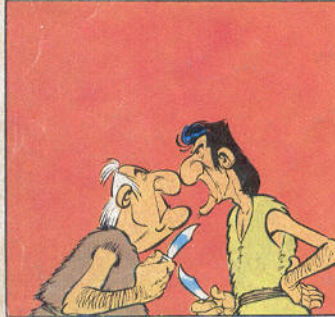
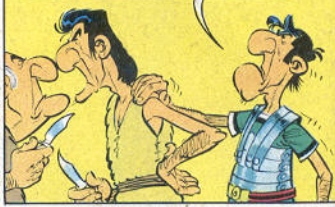


YOU WERE THE ONLY PERSON WHO KNEW I HAD COME TO YOUR VILLAGE... AND THEN THE ROMANS CAME ALONG DURING MY SIESTA.

WE DIDN'T KNOW THEY WERE COMING. WE JUST TOOK ADVANTAGE OF YOUR SIESTA TO GO AND TAKE PROVISIONS TO COUSIN RIGATONIX WHO'S BEEN HIDING IN THE MAQUIS FOR THIRTY YEARS OVER THAT BUSINESS OF LASAGNIX'S GREAT-AUNT.



I REMEMBER! THE PRAETOR DIDN'T GET A TIP-OFF FROM OLABELLA-MARGARITIX. HE SIMPLY HAD YOU FOLLOWED, AND WHEN OLABELLA-MARGARITIX AND HIS MEN WENT OFF, HE TOOK HIS CHANCE TO CAPTURE YOU.



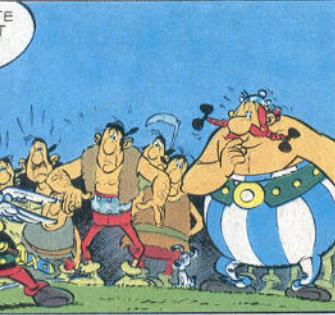
MAYBE... BUT THAT DOESN'T SETTLE THE BUSINESS OF YOUR GREAT-GRANDFATHER WHO WOULDN'T PAY FOR THE DONKEY WHICH...



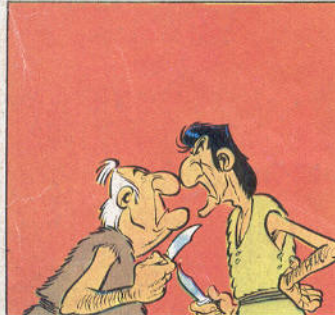
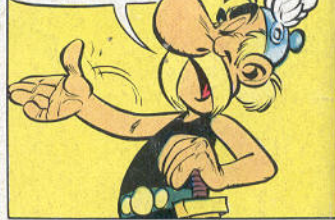
STOP IT!



THAT'S QUITE ENOUGH PAST HISTORY!



YOU'VE BEEN FIGHTING TOGETHER AGAINST YOUR OPPRESSOR, AND YOU'LL HAVE TO FIGHT AGAIN IF YOU'RE TO REMAIN FREE, SO SHAKE HANDS!



**HURRAH FOR BONEYWASAWARRIORWAYAYIX!
HURRAH FOR OLABELLAMARGARITIX!
HURRAH FOR ASTERIX!
LET'S HAVE A PARTY!
OINK!**



GAULS, WE ARE HAPPY TO HAVE BEEN YOUR HOSTS, AND YOU'VE REALLY WORKED WONDERS...



BEATING THE ROMANS IS NOTHING, BUT SETTLING A VENDETTA BETWEEN TWO CLANS IS AN AMAZING FEAT!



SUCH POINTLESS FEUDS WILL NEVER EXIST IN CORSICA AGAIN!

GOOD... AND NOW WE MUST BE GETTING HOME TO GUL-BONEYWASA-WARRIORWAYIX.



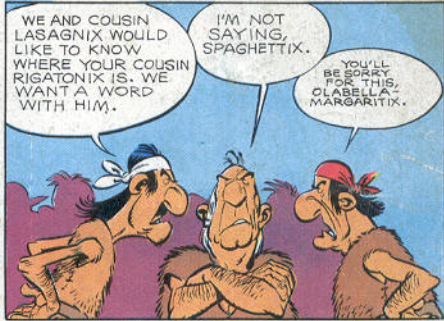
WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE AS A PRESENT FROM CORSICA?

THAT DEAR LITTLE DOG.



HEY, OLABELLA-MARGARITIX!

?

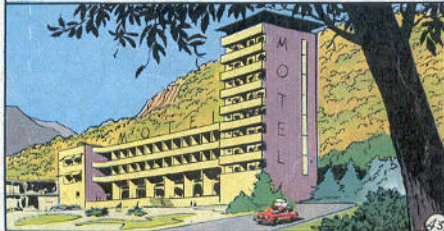


WE AND COUSIN LASAGNIX WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHERE YOUR COUSIN RIGATONIX IS. WE WANT A WORD WITH HIM.

I'M NOT SAYING, SPAGHETTIX.

YOU'LL BE SORRY FOR THIS, OLABELLA-MARGARITIX.

WE MAY NOTE IN PASSING THAT, AS A RESULT OF THIS RATHER COMPLICATED MATTER, ONE OF THE DESCENDANTS OF THE OLABELLAMARGARITIX CLAN WAS FOUND LAST YEAR BY THE POLICE, HIDING IN THE MAQUIS BEHIND A MOTEL.



**HERE THEY
COME! THEY'RE
BACK!**

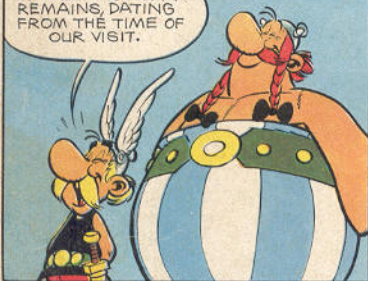


WELL, BOYS,
WAS IT NICE
IN CORSICA?



IT WAS FINE,
NICE PLACE THEY'VE
GOT THERE, MOUNTAINS,
FORESTS, MOUNTAIN
STREAMS, MAQUIS...

AND SOME
INTERESTING ROMAN
REMAINS, DATING
FROM THE TIME OF
OUR VISIT.



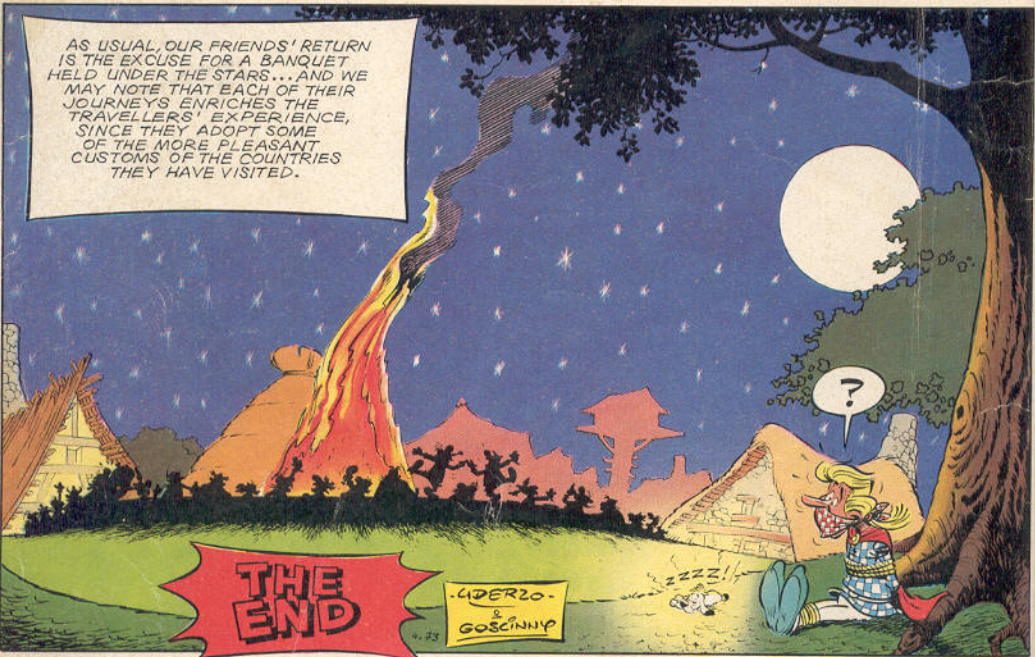
AND THERE WERE
SOME VERY NICE PIGS,
AND DOGMATIX
MADE LOTS OF
FRIENDS...



DIDN'T YOU,
DOGMATIX?



AS USUAL, OUR FRIENDS' RETURN
IS THE EXCUSE FOR A BANQUET
HELD UNDER THE STARS... AND WE
MAY NOTE THAT EACH OF THEIR
JOURNEYS ENRICHES THE
TRAVELLERS' EXPERIENCE,
SINCE THEY ADOPT SOME
OF THE MORE PLEASANT
CUSTOMS OF THE COUNTRIES
THEY HAVE VISITED.



**THE
END**

LUPERTO
&
GOSCINIIP

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