

HODDER DARGAUD PRESENTS



BOOK 15

Asterix

TEXT: GOSCINNY
DRAWINGS: UDERZO

and the GOLDEN SICKLE



Asterix and the Golden Sickle

ALL NO. 60'S



THE FIERCELY INDEPENDENT LITTLE VILLAGE WHERE ASTERIX AND THE OTHER GAULS LIVE IS AT PEACE...



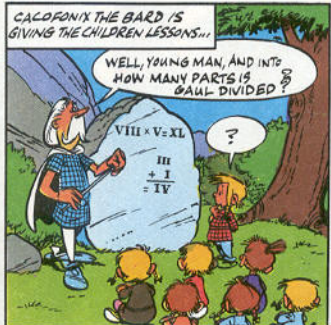
GOOD HUNTING, ASTERIX?

NOTHING MUCH TODAY...



OBELIX IS HAPPILY AT WORK, CARVING OUT A MENHIR...

THERE'LL ALWAYS BE A GAU-AAH...



CACOFONIX THE BARD IS GIVING THE CHILDREN LESSONS...

WELL, YOUNG MAN, AND INTO HOW MANY PARTS IS GAUL DIVIDED?

$$\begin{array}{r} VIII \times V = XL \\ III \\ + I \\ - IV \end{array}$$



IN SHORT EVERYONE IS CONTENTED, ALL IS PEACE AND PLENTY...

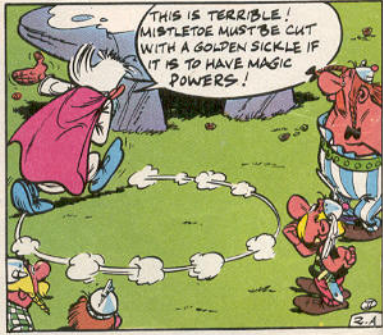
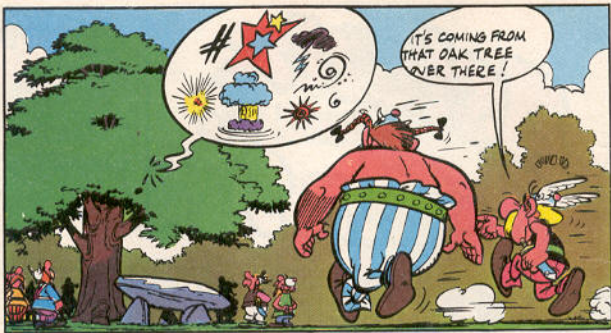
ANOTHER BOAR, OBELIX?

YES, PLEASE!



WHEN SUDDENLY...

OH, BY TOUTATIS!





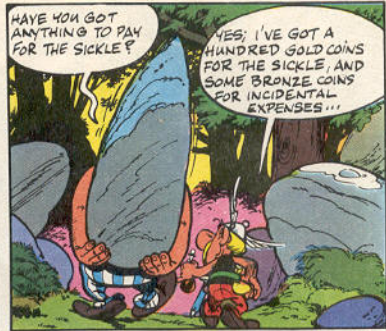
S.A

S.B



I'VE HEARD THERE ARE A LOT OF BANDITS ABOUT THE FOREST JUST NOW. I THINK I'LL TAKE A DROP OF MAGIC POTION.

ALL THESE FEEBLE EXCUSES ABOUT ME FALLING INTO THE CAULDRON OF POTION WHEN I WAS A BABY. JUST TO STOP ME HAVING ANY! IT'S NOT FAIR!



HAVE YOU GOT ANYTHING TO PAY FOR THE SICKLE?

YES, I'VE GOT A HUNDRED GOLD COINS FOR THE SICKLE, AND SOME BRONZE COINS FOR INCIDENTAL EXPENSES...



DID YOU HEAR THAT?

COME ON!



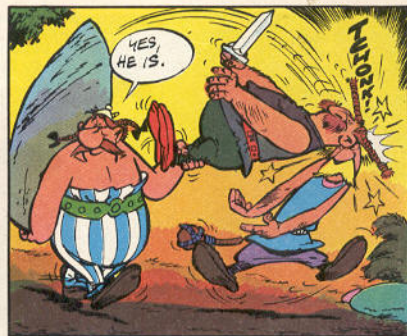
YOUR MONEY OR YOUR LIFE!

DO YOU SUPPOSE THESE ARE BANDITS?

VERY LIKELY!!!



METALLURGY MUST BE DOING WELL!



YES, HE IS.



WHAT DOES HE DO WITH ALL THE GOLD COINS HE GETS FOR HIS SICKLES?



OH, HE MAKES MORE SICKLES.

STOK!



I HOPE WE AREN'T GOING TO MEET TOO MANY MORE BANDITS ON THE WAY. IT DOES CUT DOWN OUR AVERAGE SPEED.

NIGHT IS FALLING, OBELIX. THERE'S AN INN NEAR HERE CALLED THE CONTRITE BARBARIAN. WE'LL STOP THERE!!!

DANGER
SLIPPERY FLAGSTONES



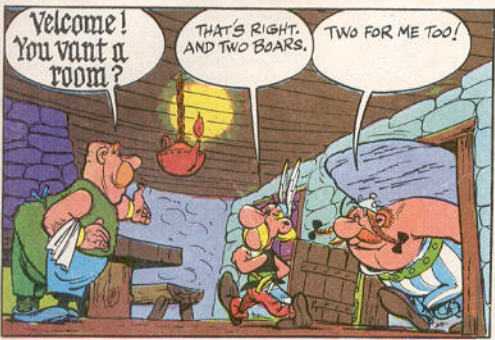
THIS INN IS FAMOUS FOR ITS SPECIALITY: ROAST BOAR!

ROAST OR JUST SERVED RAW AS A SIMPLE LITTLE SALAD, BOAR IS MY FAVOURITE FOOD!

Welcome! You want a room?

THAT'S RIGHT. AND TWO BOARS.

TWO FOR ME TOO!



YOU CAN TAKE OUR LUGGAGE TO OUR ROOM.

???



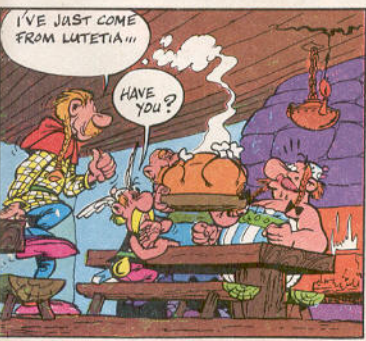
And where are you going like that?

TO LUTETIA!!!

SRUNCH! SRUNCH! SRUNCH!



Aaaa! Lutetia!



I'VE JUST COME FROM LUTETIA!!!

HAVE YOU?



A BEAUTIFUL CITY, LUTETIA, BUT DANGEROUS. VERY DANGEROUS!

OH, COME! WE'RE ONLY GOING THERE TO BUY A SICKLE.



A SICKLE? SICKLES ARE IN SHORT SUPPLY IN LUTETIA JUST NOW.

DON'T WORRY, WE KNOW WHERE TO GO!

NEXT MORNING!!!



Auf
wiederschen!

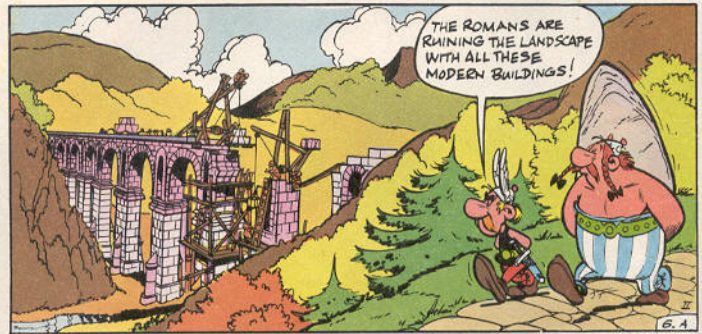


HEY, ASTERIX, WHY DO YOU THINK THAT TRAVELLER TOLD US SICKLES WERE IN SHORT SUPPLY IN LUTETIA?

NO IDEA, OBELIX.

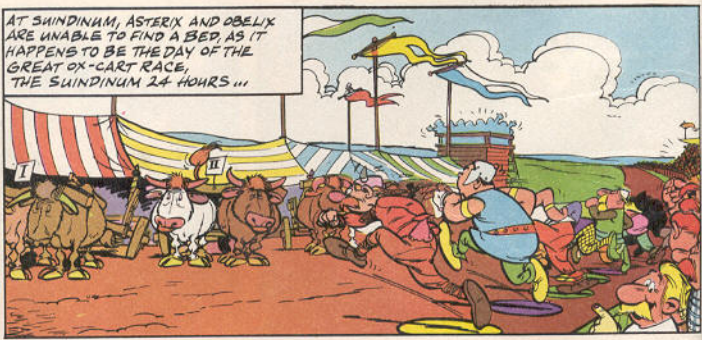
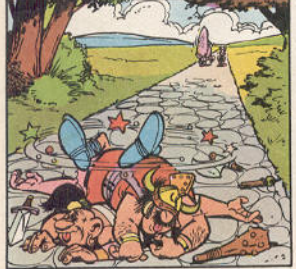


LET'S ENJOY OUR JOURNEY; WE CAN WORRY ABOUT THAT LATER!!!



THE ROMANS ARE RUINING THE LANDSCAPE WITH ALL THESE MODERN BUILDINGS!

OUR FRIENDS' JOURNEY PROCEEDS WITHOUT MUCH INCIDENT, APART FROM A FEW SCUFFLES WITH BANDITS!!!

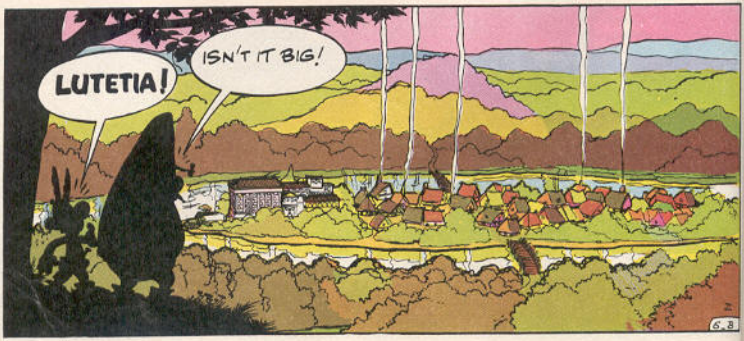


AT SWINDINUM, ASTERIX AND OBELIX ARE UNABLE TO FIND A BED AS IT HAPPENS TO BE THE DAY OF THE GREAT OX-CART RACE, THE SWINDINUM 24 HOURS!!!

BUT AT LAST, ONE DAY!!!

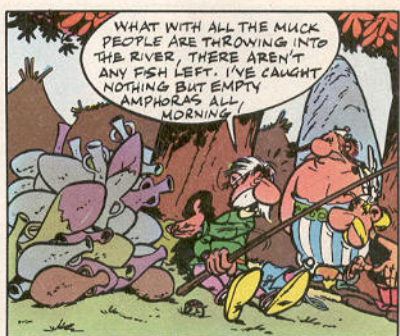
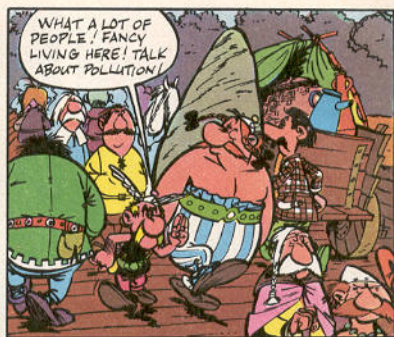


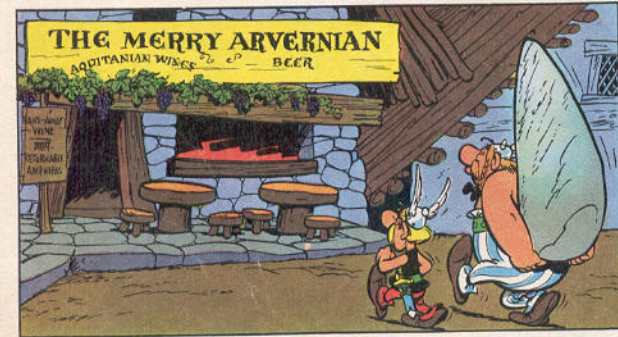
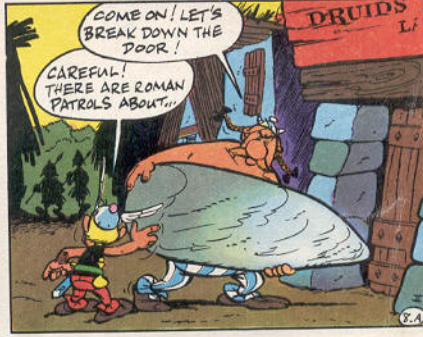
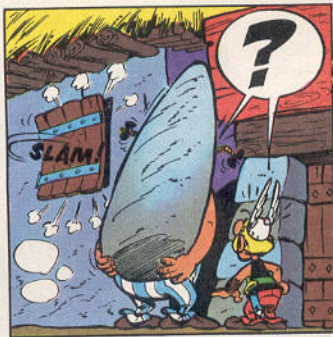
LOOK!
OBELIX!

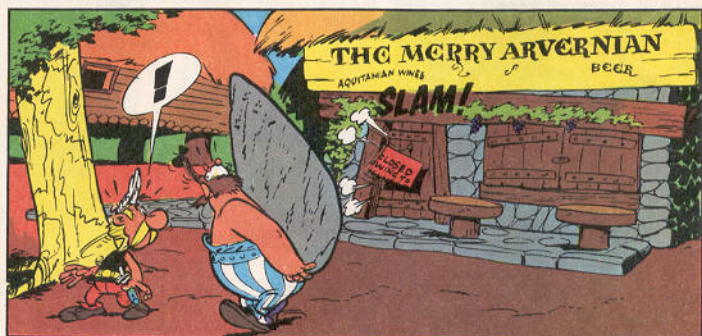


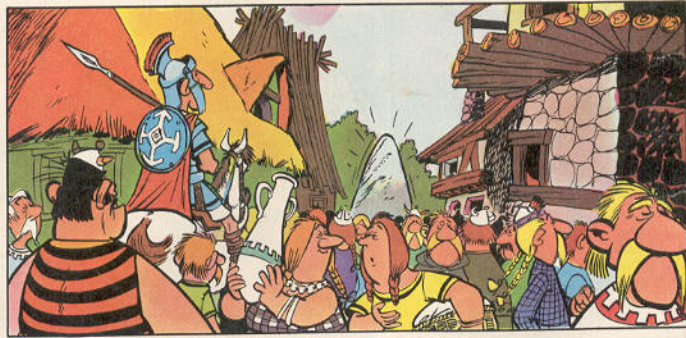
LUTETIA!

ISN'T IT BIG!

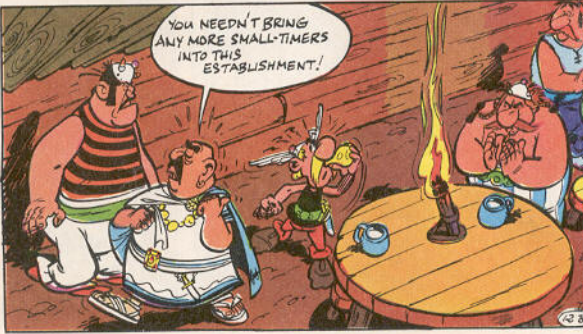
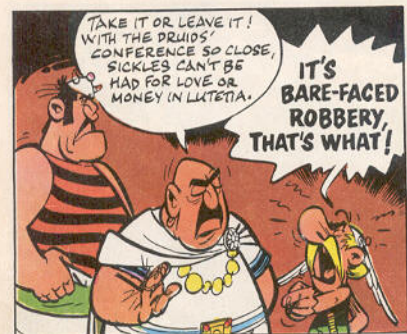
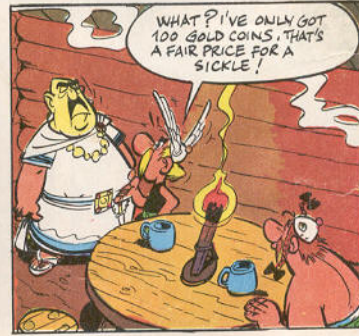




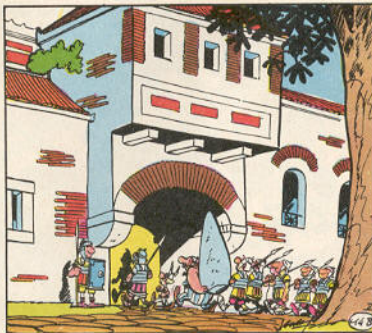


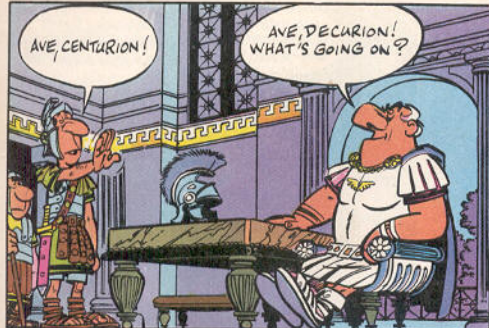












AVE, CENTURION!

AVE, DECURION!
WHAT'S GOING ON?



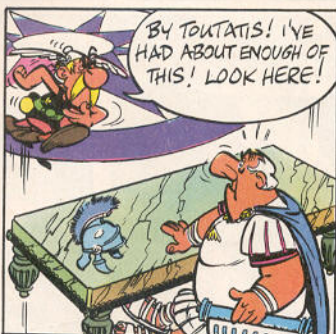
THESE TWO MEN HAVE
BROKEN UP NAVISHTRIX'S
PLACE!!!

HEY, IF I GET IT
RIGHT, A CENTURION IS
HIGHER UP THAN A
DECURION?

TEN TIMES
HIGHER UP!



THAT'S A GOOD JOB WELL
DONE! THROW THESE TWO
GAULS INTO PRISON. WE MAY
PASS SENTENCE ON THEM,
IF WE EVER GET ROUND
TO IT!!!



BY TOUTATIS! I'VE
HAD ABOUT ENOUGH OF
THIS! LOOK HERE!



**SILENCE,
GAUL!**

**I FEAR I AM
ABOUT TO BREAK
THE PAX
ROMANA!!!**



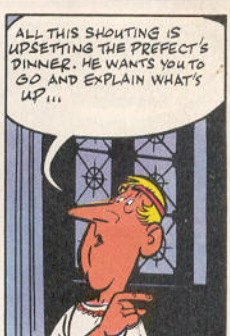
OH, DO YOU?

**YES,
I DO!!!**

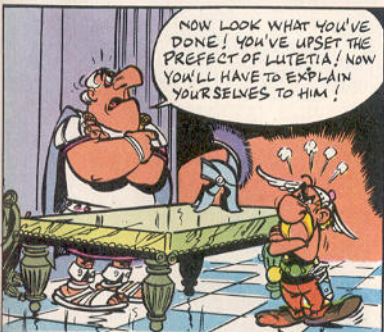
SHALL WE
GET THEM?
SHALL WE GET
THEM?



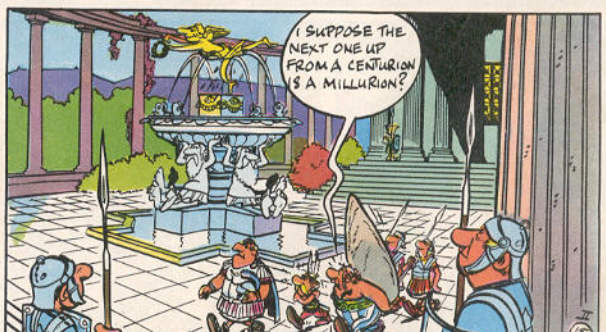
PAX, GENTLEMEN, PAX!



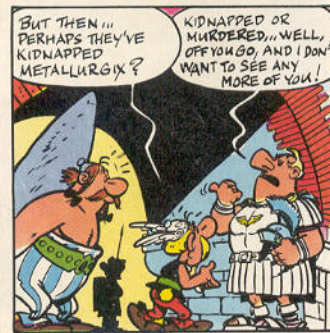
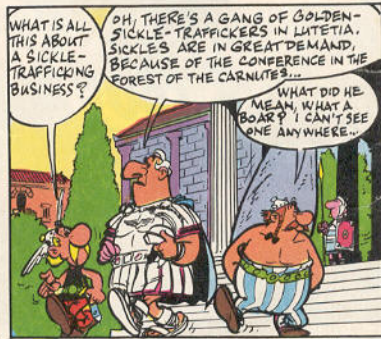
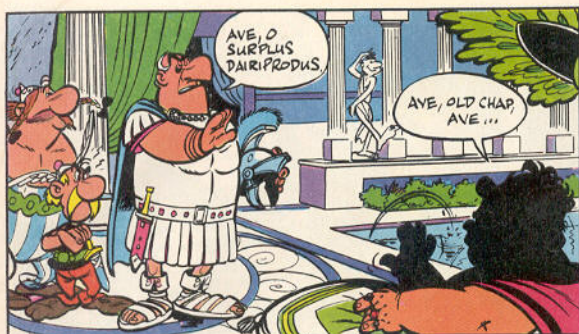
ALL THIS SHOUTING IS
UPSETTING THE PREFERCT'S
DINNER. HE WANTS YOU TO
GO AND EXPLAIN WHAT'S
UP!!!



NOW LOOK WHAT YOU'VE
DONE! YOU'VE UPSET THE
PREFERCT OF LUTETIA! NOW
YOU'LL HAVE TO EXPLAIN
YOURSELVES TO HIM!



I SUPPOSE THE
NEXT ONE UP
FROM A CENTURION
IS A MILLURION?



BOOHOO!
POOR COUSIN
METALLURGIX!



WE'LL FIND HIM,
OBELIX. FOR A START,
WHAT DOES YOUR
COUSIN LOOK LIKE?

WHAT DOES HE LOOK
LIKE? I'VE NO IDEA.
I'VE NEVER SET
EYES ON HIM.



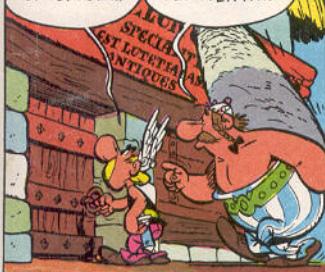
LET'S GO BACK
TO HIS HOUSE.
WE MIGHT FIND A
CLUE THERE...



SO WE MIGHT, NOW
CAN I BE EXPECTED TO
KNOW WHAT HE LOOKS
LIKE WHEN I'VE NEVER
SEEN HIM...?
SOMETIMES ASTERIX
JUST DOESN'T STOP
TO THINK!

THE DOORS LOCKED,
OF COURSE...

LEAVE IT TO ME.
I'LL OPEN IT...

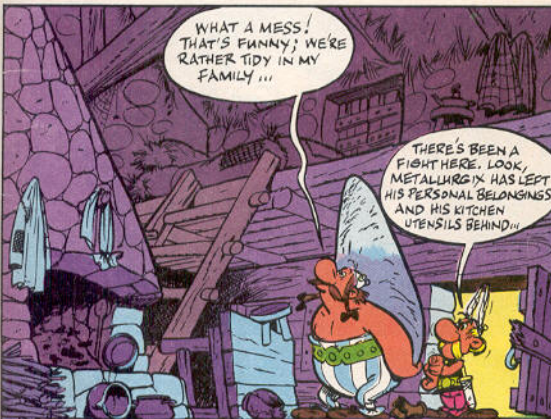


THERE YOU ARE!



WHAT A MESS!
THAT'S FUNNY; WE'RE
RATHER TIDY IN MY
FAMILY...

THERE'S BEEN A
FIGHT HERE, LOOK,
METALLURGIX HAS LEFT
HIS PERSONAL BELONGINGS
AND HIS KITCHEN
UTENSILS BEHIND...



BUT HIS TOOLS, HIS
SICKLES AND HIS
MONEY ARE ALL
MISSING. OBELIX,
YOUR COUSIN'S BEEN
KIDNAPPED BY THE
SICKLE-
TRAFFICKERS!

BOOHOOO!
POOR
METALLURGIX!



LATER...

WHAT A PRICE BOAR IS
IN LUTETIA!

AND THE BUTCHER SAID
PRICES WERE GOING TO
RISE EVEN HIGHER. IT'S
A POOR LOOKOUT FOR
GAIL!



WELL, THIS PROVES
METALLURGIX IS
STILL ALIVE. WE'LL
FIND HIM, BY
TOUTATIS!

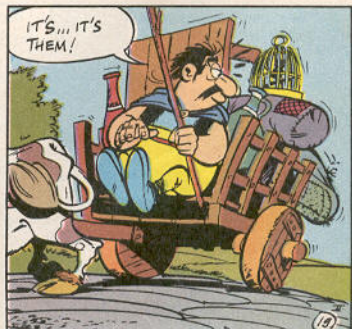
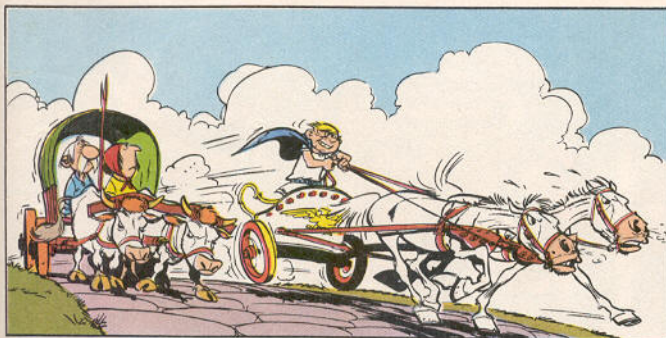
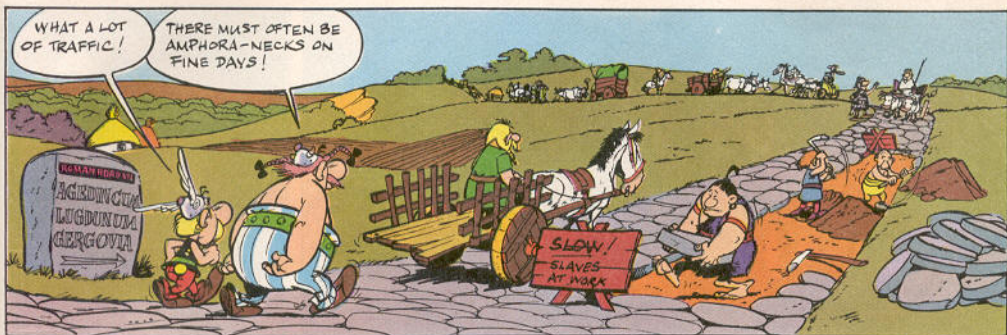
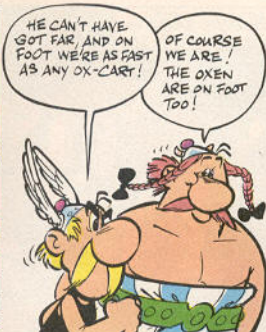
OH
GOODY!



LET'S MOVE IN
HERE, AND FIRST,
LET'S GO AND DO
SOME SHOPPING.

GOOD IDEA!

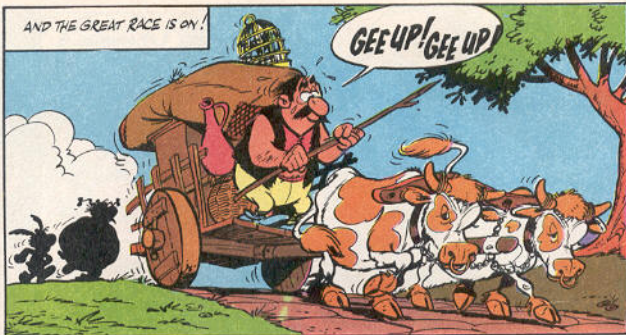






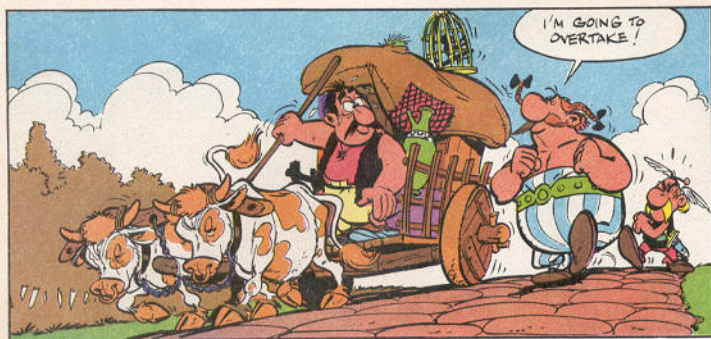
THE ARVERNIAN!
IN FRONT THERE!

LET'S GO!



AND THE GREAT RACE IS ON!

GEE UP! GEE UP!



I'M GOING TO
OVERTAKE!

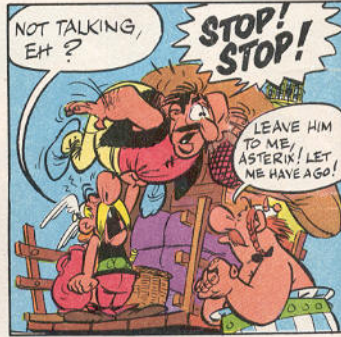


BONG!



WHAT'S THE
MATTER? WHAT DO
YOU WANT?

WHERE'S
METALLURGIX?
TELL US ALL YOU
KNOW!



NOT TALKING,
EH?

STOP!
STOP!

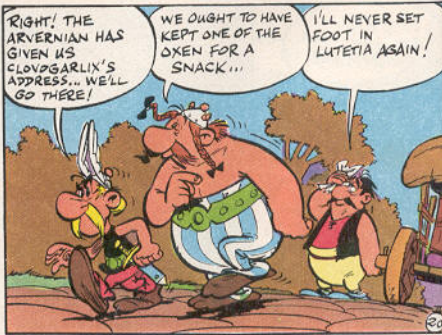
LEAVE HIM
TO ME,
ASTERIX! LET
ME HAVE A GO!



ONE DAY SOME MEN CAME AND
TOOK METALLURGIX AWAY... I
HAPPENED TO BE PASSING,
AND THEY WERE GOING TO
TAKE ME TOO...



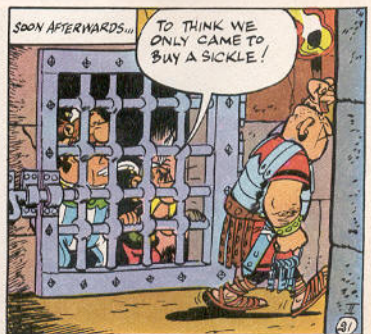
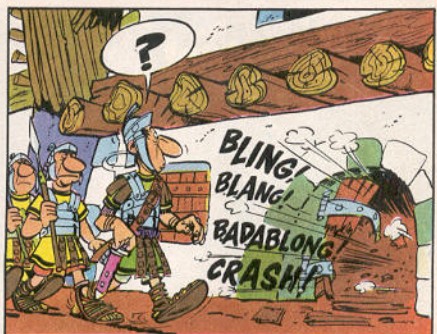
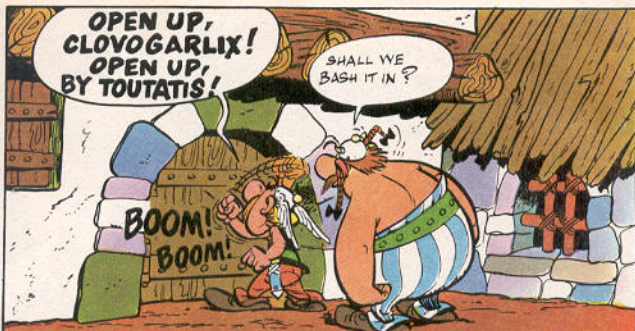
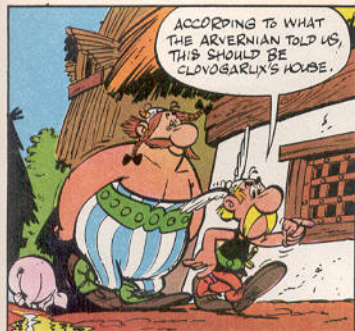
BUT ONE OF THE MEN, CALLED
CLOVOGARLIX, LET ME GO ON
CONDITION I TOLD HIM IF
ANYONE CAME LOOKING FOR
METALLURGIX, THEY FORCED
ME TO BE THEIR ACCOMPLICE,
BUT I'M INNOCENT REALLY!



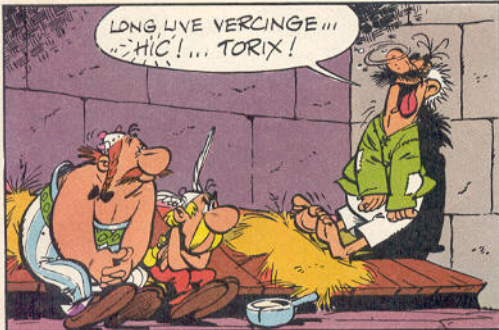
RIGHT! THE
ARVERNIAN HAS
GIVEN US
CLOVOGARLIX'S
ADDRESS... WE'LL
GO THERE!

WE OUGHT TO HAVE
KEPT ONE OF THE
OXEN FOR A
SNACK...

I'LL NEVER SET
FOOT IN
LUTETIA AGAIN!



LONG LIVE VERGINCE !!!
-HIC!... TORIX!



HULLO. WHAT ARE YOU
INSIDE FOR?
-HIC!



WE'RE LOOKING
FOR A MAN CALLED
CLOYOGARLIX ...

I KNOW HIM. HE ... HIC!
... WISHED TO WORK AT
NAVISHTRIX'S PLACE!



NAVISHTRIX HAD A LOVELY
LITTLE WINE FROM GALLIA
NARBONENSIS ... HIC! ... LOVELY
LITTLE WINE ... ALL DONE FOR
NOW ... HIC! ... ALL OVER!



IT'SH SAD ...
SAAAAD!
BOOHOO ... HIC!
... HOOOOO ...

ANY IDEA WHERE
NAVISHTRIX AND
CLOYOGARLIX MIGHT
HAVE GONE?



NO ... SNIFF! ... BUT I OFTEN
HEARD THEM ARRANGING TO MEET
UNDER THE DOLMEN
... HIC!

UNDER THE
DOLMEN?



IT'S A CLUE. ONLY A SLIGHT
CLUE, BUT A CLUE! LET'S GET OUT
OF HERE!

RIGHT.



CRAASH!

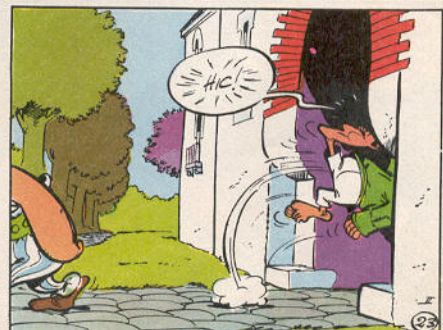
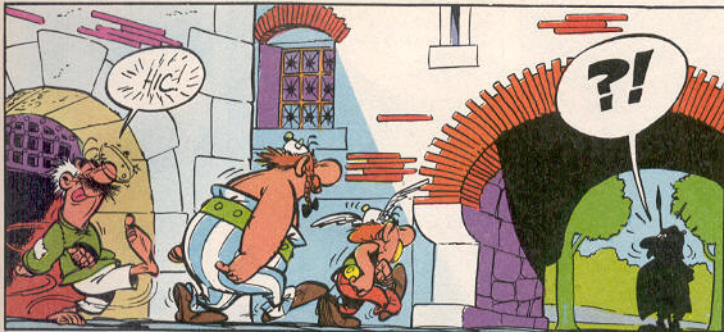


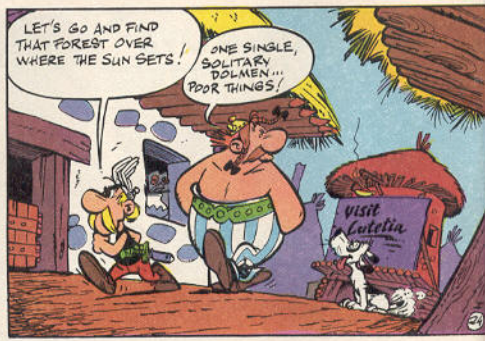
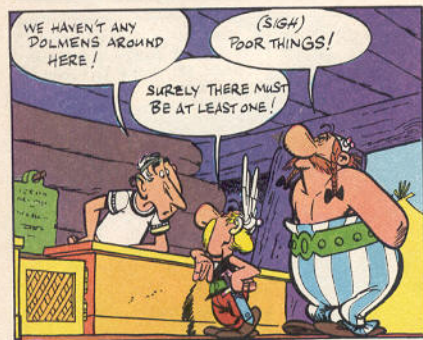
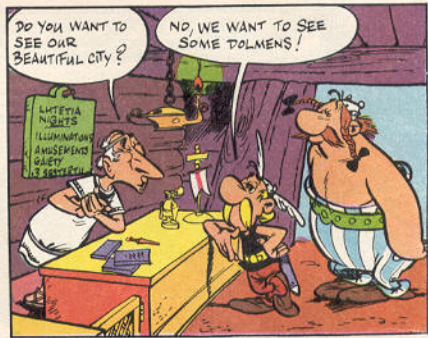
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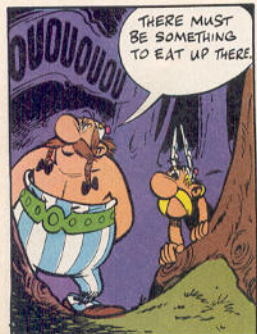
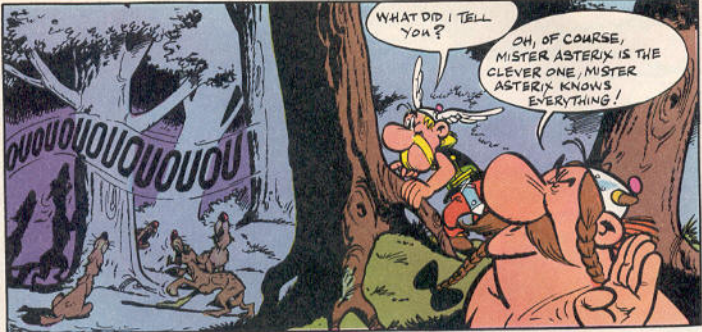


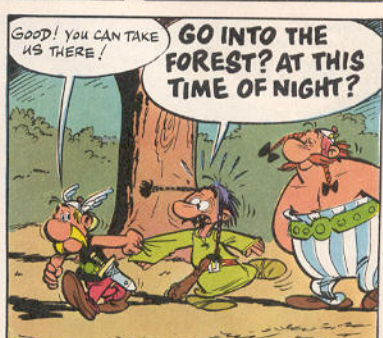
LONG LIVE VERGINCE...VERCEGIN...
-Hic!...VERCEGINTORIX!

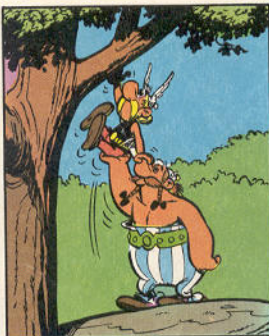
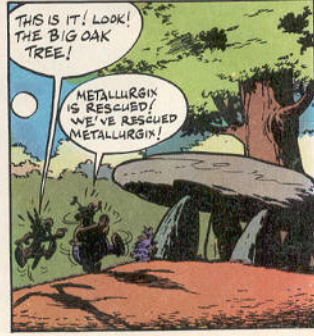
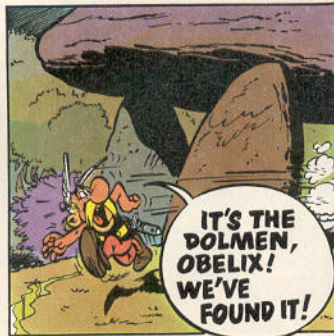
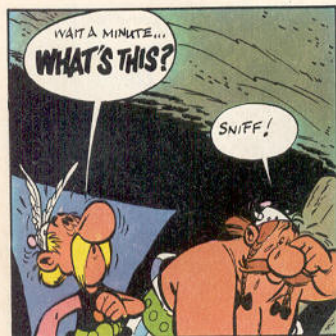




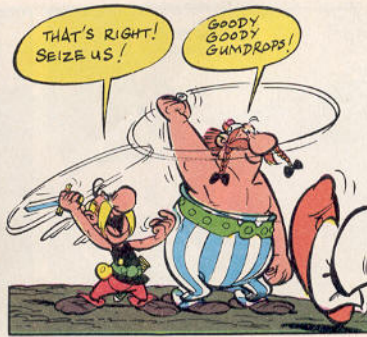
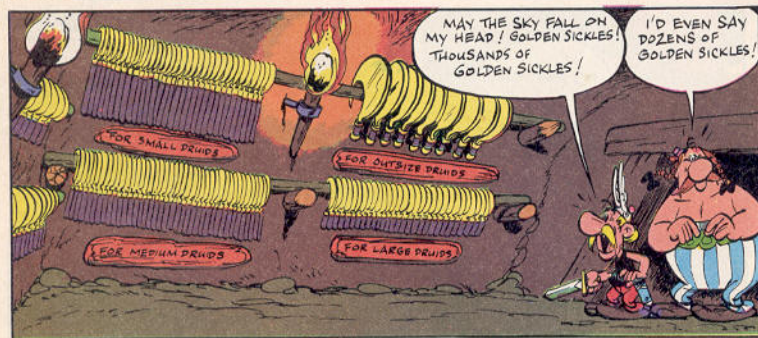
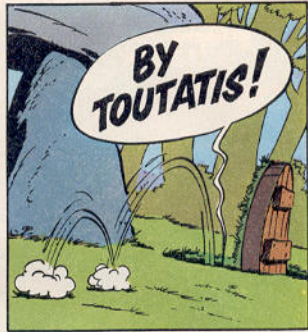


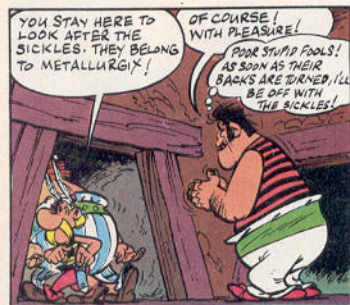
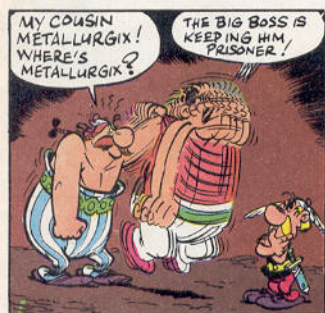
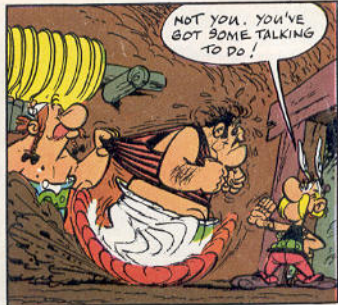
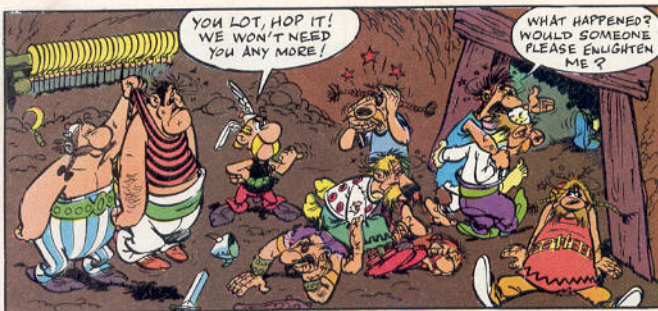


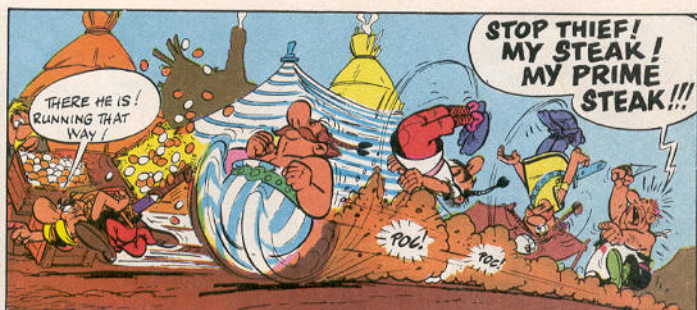
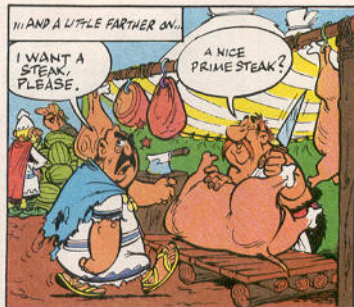


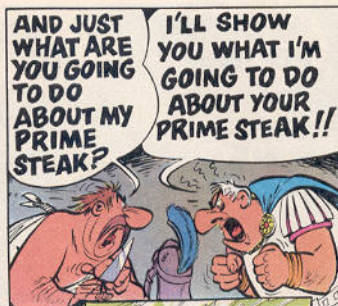
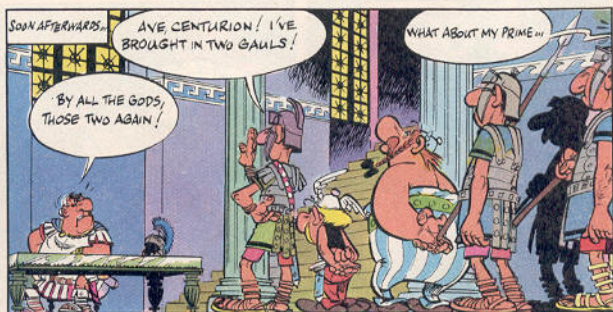
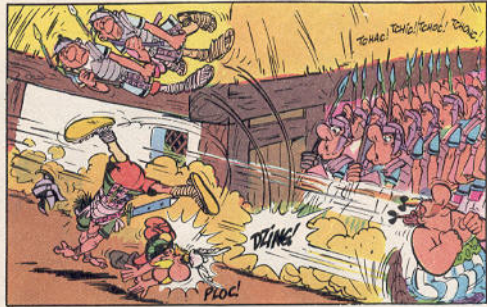


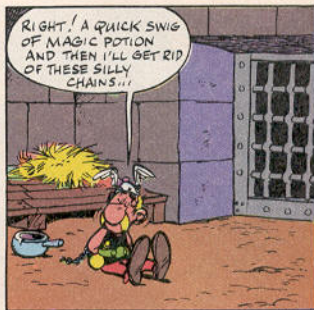
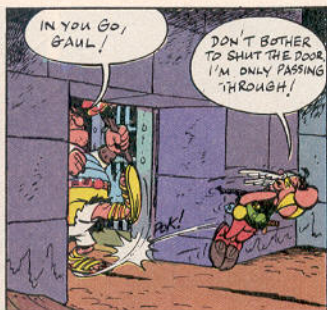
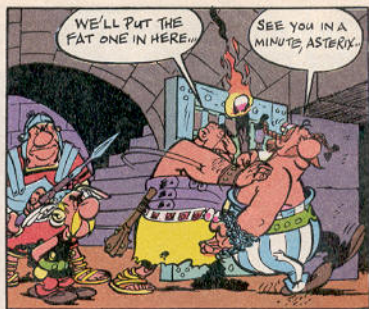
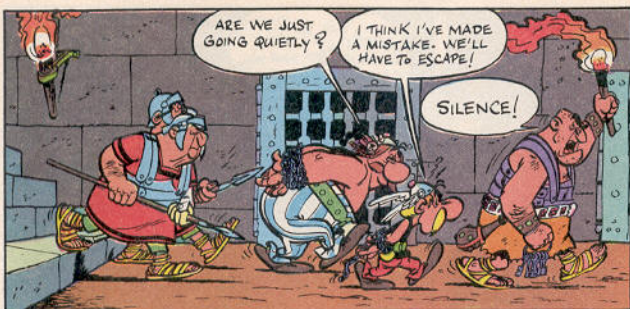


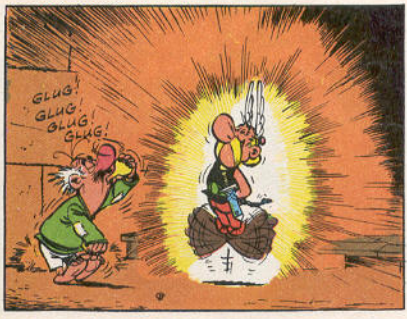
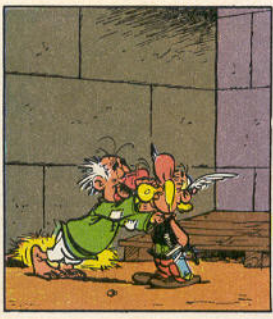


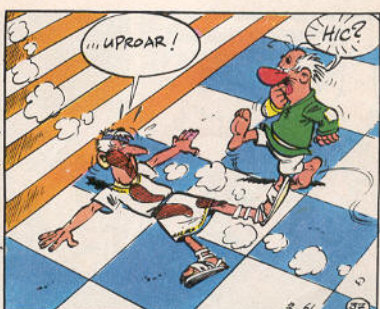
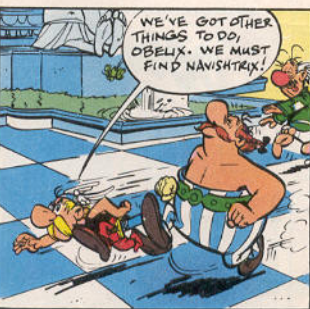


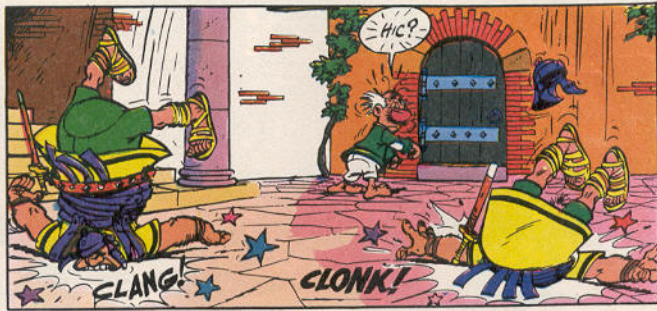


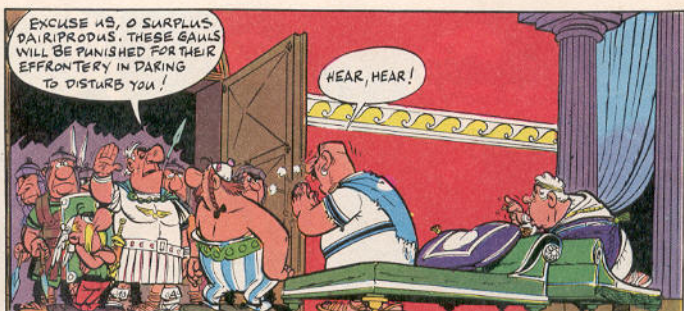
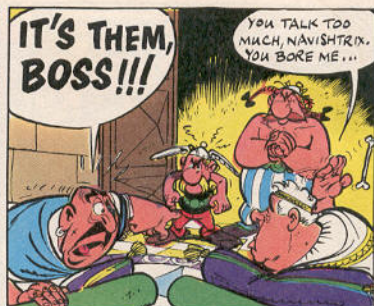
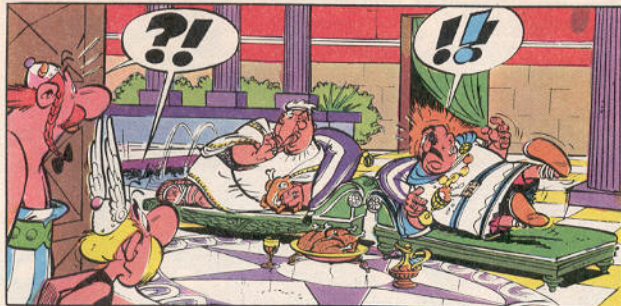


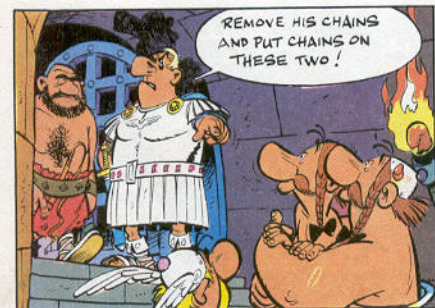
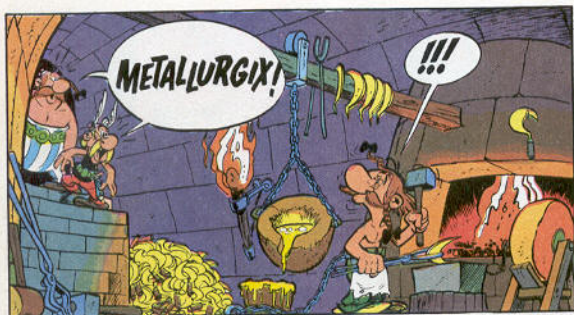














WITH THEIR GOLDEN SICKLE AT LAST, OUR TWO FRIENDS LEAVE LUTETIA FOR AN UNEVENTFUL JOURNEY...



I LOVE LUTETIA IN THE SPRINGTIME

APART FROM A FEW RASH BANDITS...



I TELL YOU, THE SKY HAS FALLEN ON OUR HEADS!

... A FEW FOOLHARDY BARBARIANS ...



COME ALONG, OBELIX! DON'T PAWDLÉ!

Nein, it nicht vos!

... AND SEVERAL CARELESS WILD BOAR ...



... THEIR JOURNEY, AS WE SAID, WAS ANEVENFUL!



LOOK, OBELIX, THERE'S OUR VILLAGE!

GREAT!



COME ON, EVERYONE! ASTERIX AND OBELIX ARE BACK!

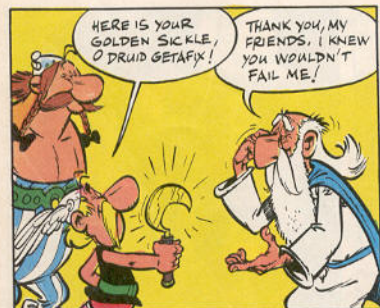
THEY'LL BE ABLE TO TELL US WHAT'S BEING WORN IN LUTETIA THIS SEASON!



WELCOME BACK, BRAVE WARRIORS!

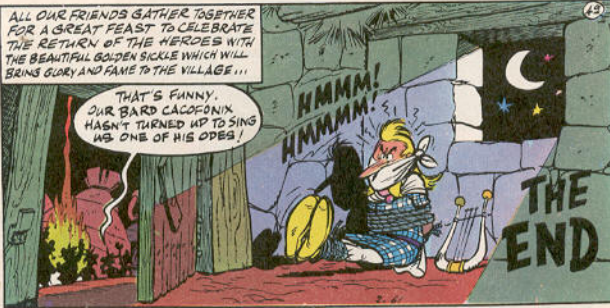
I WILL NOW COMPOSE AN ODE FOR THIS GLORIOUS OCCASION!

JUST YOU TRY IT!



HERE IS YOUR GOLDEN SICKLE, O DRUID GETAFIX!

THANK YOU, MY FRIENDS. I KNEW YOU WOULDN'T FAIL ME!



ALL OUR FRIENDS GATHER TOGETHER FOR A GREAT FEAST TO CELEBRATE THE RETURN OF THE HEROES WITH THE BEAUTIFUL GOLDEN SICKLE WHICH WILL BRING GLORY AND FAME TO THE VILLAGE...

THAT'S FUNNY. OUR BARD CACOPHONIX HASN'T TURNED UP TO SING HIS ONE OF HIS ODES!

HHMMM! HHMMM!

THE END