

HODDER DARGAUD PRESENTS

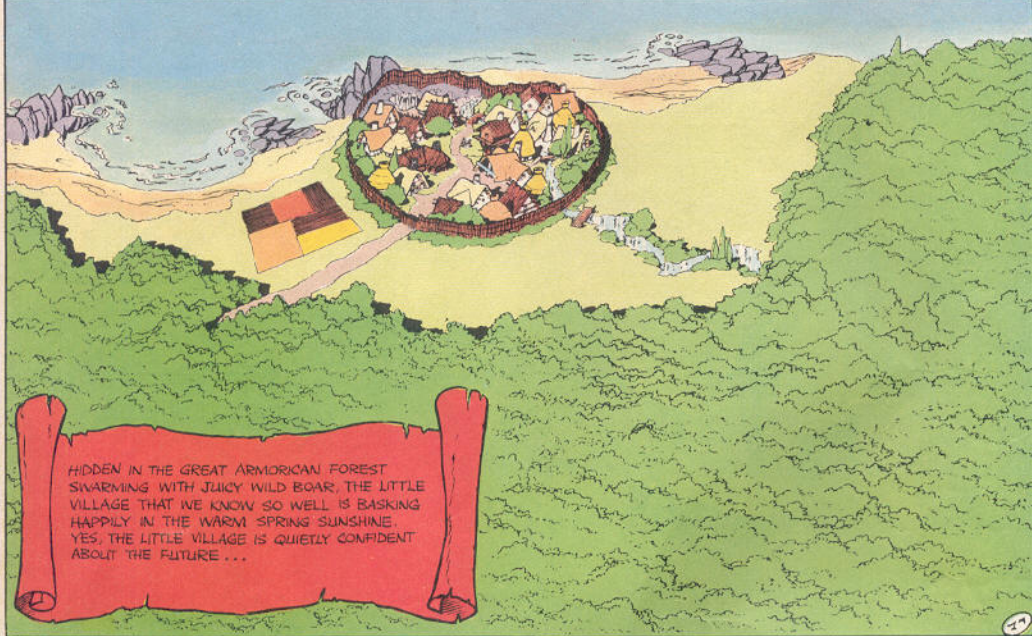


TEXT: GOSCINNY
DRAWINGS: UDERZO

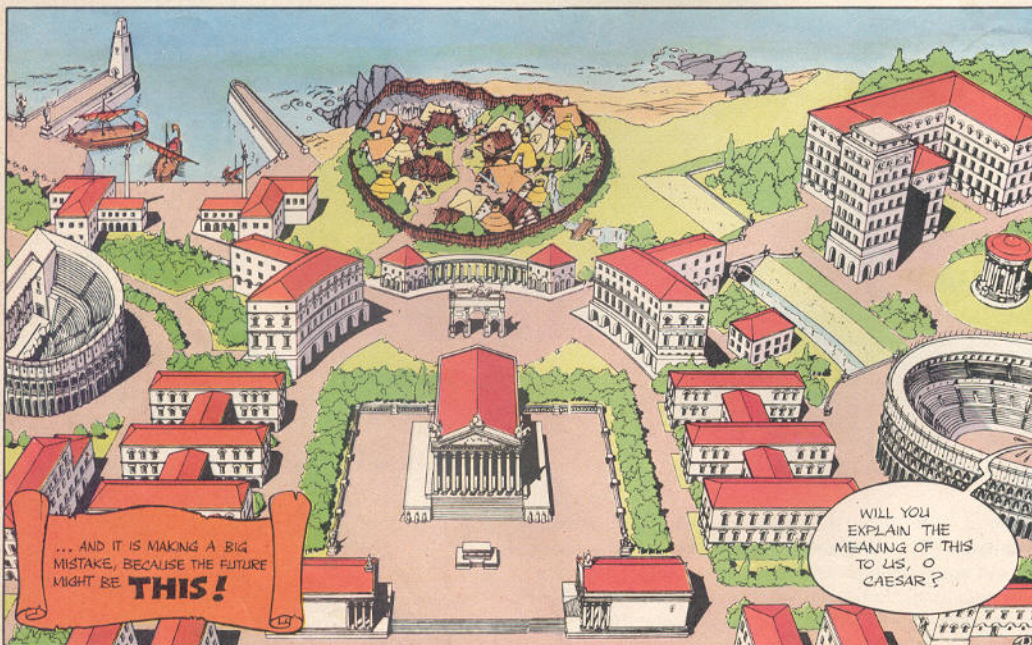
Asterix

THE MANSIONS OF THE GODS



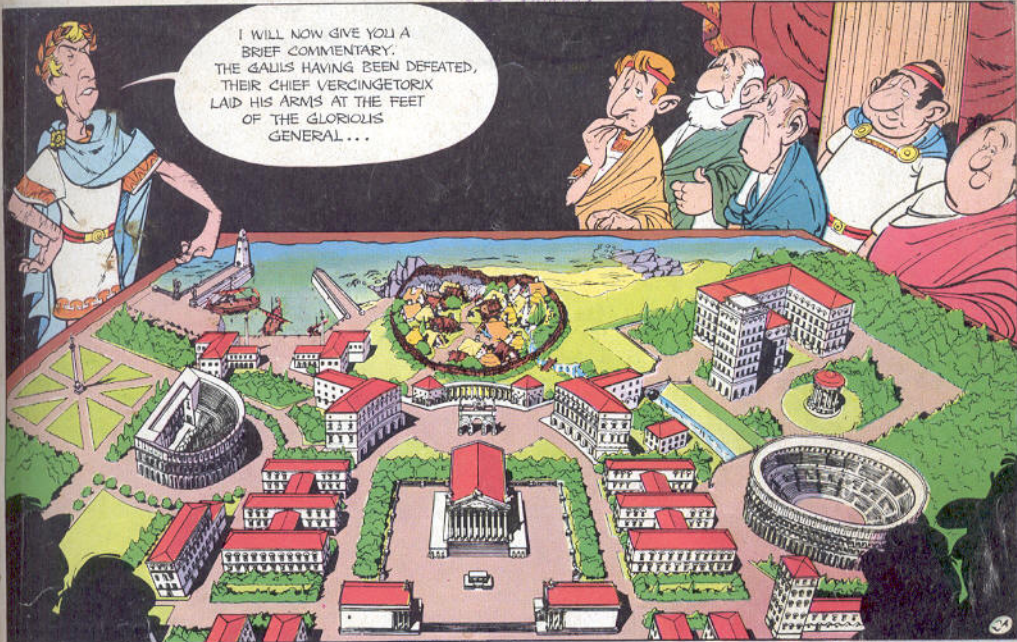


HIDDEN IN THE GREAT ARMORICAN FOREST
SWARMING WITH JUICY WILD BOAR, THE LITTLE
VILLAGE THAT WE KNOW SO WELL IS BASKING
HAPPILY IN THE WARM SPRING SUNSHINE.
YES, THE LITTLE VILLAGE IS QUIETLY CONFIDENT
ABOUT THE FUTURE...



... AND IT IS MAKING A BIG
MISTAKE, BECAUSE THE FUTURE
MIGHT BE **THIS!**

WILL YOU
EXPLAIN THE
MEANING OF THIS
TO US, O
CAESAR?



...WHO OCCUPIED ALL GAUL. ALL? NO! ONE SMALL VILLAGE INHABITED BY INDOMITABLE BARBARIANS DARED, AND STILL DARES, TO RESIST HIM!

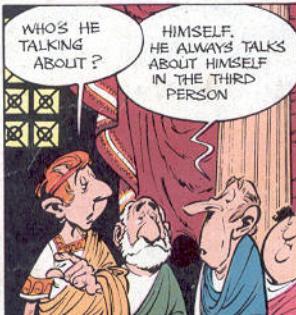


THESE GAULS, WITH THE AID OF A MAGIC POTION WHICH GIVES THEM SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH, AND PROTECTED BY A FOREST WHICH PROVIDES THEM WITH FOOD, REJECT THE ADVANTAGES OF ROMAN CIVILIZATION...



WHOS HE TALKING ABOUT?

HIMSELF. HE ALWAYS TALKS ABOUT HIMSELF IN THE THIRD PERSON



HE'S GREAT!

WHO?

ER... YOU!

OH, HIM!



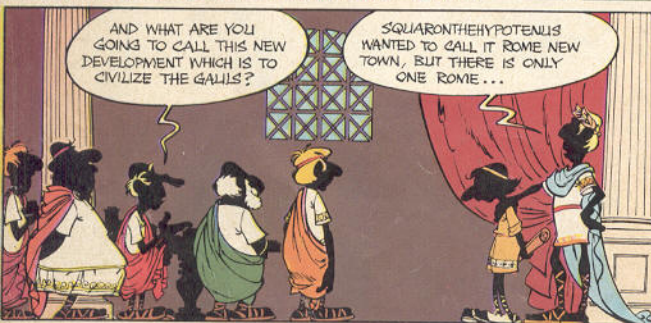
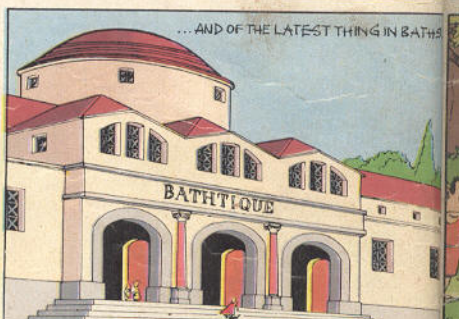
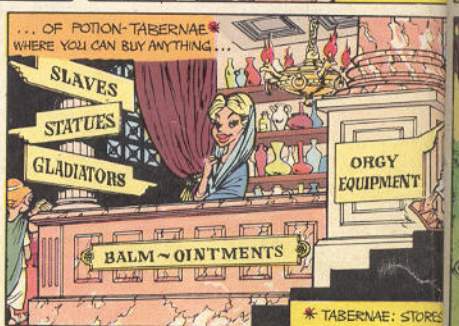
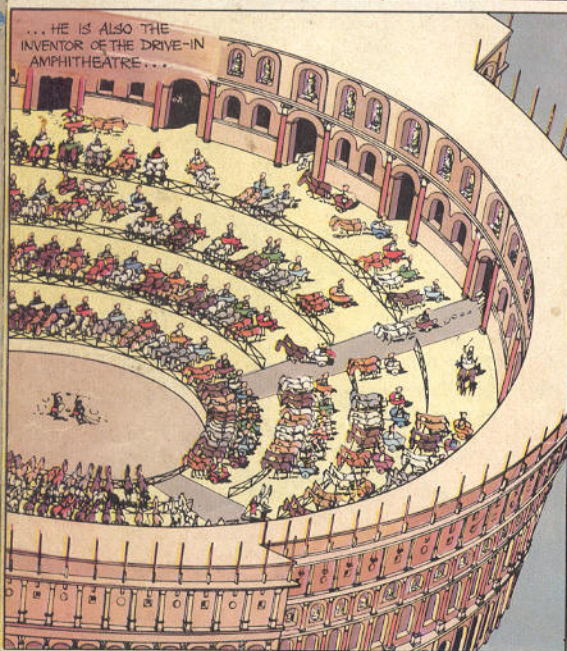
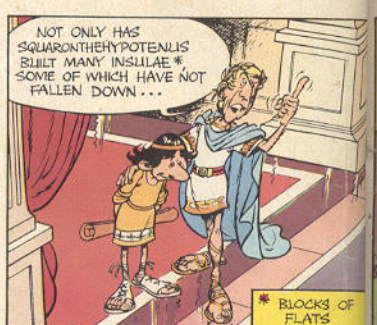
WHICH I HAVE DECIDED TO FORCE THEM TO ACCEPT! THE FOREST WILL BE DESTROYED TO MAKE WAY FOR A NATURAL PARK!



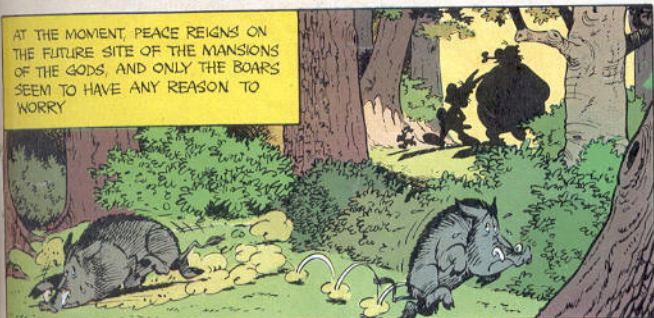
AND THEN BLOCKS OF FLATS FULL OF ROMAN TENANTS WILL SURROUND THE VILLAGE, WHICH WILL BECOME A MERE NATIVE RESERVATION. THESE GAULS MAY BE CRAZY'S BUT THEY'LL HAVE TO ADAPT TO OUR WAYS THEN!



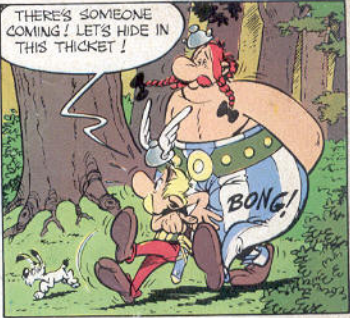
*HENCE THE OLD GAULISH EXPRESSION "A MENTAL RESERVATION"



AT THE MOMENT, PEACE REIGNS ON THE FUTURE SITE OF THE MANSIONS OF THE GODS, AND ONLY THE BOARS SEEM TO HAVE ANY REASON TO WORRY



THERE'S SOMEONE COMING! LET'S HIDE IN THIS THICKET!



WELL, I THINK THEY OUGHT TO DO THE HIDING! IT'S OUR FOREST, AFTER ALL!



... AND TEN FEET, THAT MAKES SIX HUNDRED AND TWO FEET, THREE HANDS...



WE'LL START THE NEXT SET OF MEASUREMENTS FROM THIS TREE



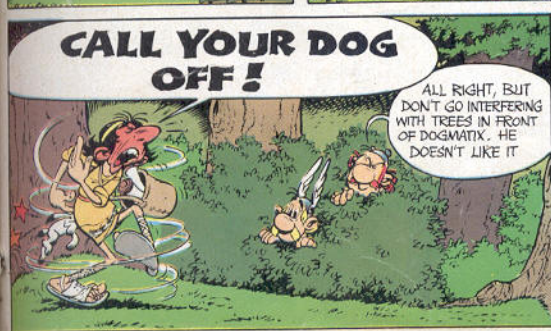
DOGMATIX! HEEL!



OUCH!



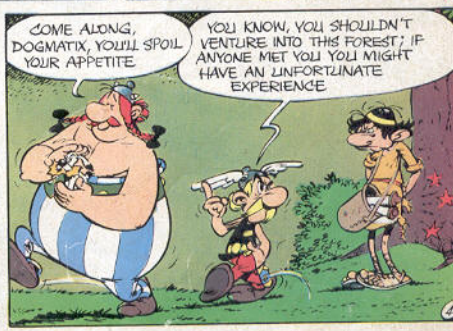
CALL YOUR DOG OFF!



ALL RIGHT, BUT DON'T GO INTERFERING WITH TREES IN FRONT OF DOGMATIX. HE DOESN'T LIKE IT

COME ALONG, DOGMATIX, YOU'LL SPOIL YOUR APPETITE

YOU KNOW, YOU SHOULDN'T VENTURE INTO THIS FOREST; IF ANYONE MET YOU YOU MIGHT HAVE AN UNFORTUNATE EXPERIENCE



THE BOARS
ARE RATHER
RETIRED
TODAY!

THEY GO INTO HIDING
WHEN THEY SEE A
CROWD

THESE FORESTS AREN'T
PROPERLY KEPT UP. WE OUGHT TO
BE SNIFFING OUT ROMANS

WE'RE
HERE TO
SNIFF OUT
BOARS,
OBELIX

LOOK, ASTERIX!
DOGMAITIX IS COMING ON!
THERE'S SOMETHING
MOVING IN THAT THICKET!

LEAVE IT
TO ME!

EEEEEEK!

CAN YOU LET ME GO ABOUT
MY BUSINESS IN PEACE?

YOU HAVEN'T
ANY BUSINESS
HERE!

WHAT'S MORE, YOU'RE
FRIGHTENING THE BOARS
AWAY!

BIFF!

SOON
AFTERWARDS...

WELL, IT'S QUITE TRUE!
I DON'T LIKE PEOPLE TO
FRIGHTEN THE BOARS!
POOR THINGS, THEY'RE SCARED
OF STRANGERS... WE'RE
DIFFERENT; THEY'RE
USED TO US

I'LL HAVE TO HAVE
A WORD WITH OUR CHIEF.
IT'S NOT NORMAL FOR
ROMANS TO BRAVE THE
DANGERS OF THE FOREST,
ESPECIALLY WHEN THE
DANGERS ARE US!

**ROMANS
IN THE
FOREST
?!?**

WE'LL HAVE TO KEEP AN EYE ON THOSE ROMANS! AFTER ALL, THEY CAN'T GO TAKING LIBERTIES WITH OUR FOREST, BY TOUTATIS!

MEASURING... THEY WERE MEASURING... YOU DON'T GO MEASURING BITS OF THE FOREST JUST FOR FUN... WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?

LLR. H. H.
LIBRARY
L.A. TRC

WE'LL KEEP AN EYE ON THEM, O DRUID GETAFIX!

AND AS SOON AS WE SEE THEM UP TO ANYTHING AGAIN, WE'LL DEAL WITH IT!

IN THE SICK-BAY OF THE FORTIFIED CAMP OF AQUARIUM...

I WARNED YOU, SQUARONTHYHYPOTENUS! THOSE GAULS ARE BARBARIANS, AND THEY DON'T LIKE PEOPLE WANDERING AROUND THEIR FOREST

IT'S NOT THEIR FOREST, CENTURION SOMMERFERUS! IT'S THE FUTURE SITE OF THE MANSIONS OF THE GODS! BARBARIANS AND FORESTS ARE OUT! FINISHED! DONE WITH!

CIVILIZATION IS IN! WE'RE ABOUT TO START THE WORK OF DEFORESTATION!

YOU'LL HAVE TO DO SOME DEGALLICIZATION FIRST

I'M COUNTING ON YOU FOR THAT, CAESAR'S ORDERS! YOUR TROOPS ARE TO GUARD THE BUILDING SITE!

DO KEEP STILL, PLEASE!

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT, BUT WE'LL WORK AT NIGHT, UNOBTUSIVELY. THERE'S LESS CHANCE OF MEETING GAULS IN THE FOREST AT NIGHT

JUST AS YOU LIKE, BUT SPEAKING FOR MYSELF, I'M NOT SCARED OF GAULS!

HAVE YOU FINISHED, DOCTOR?

I AM VERY MUKH AFRAID THAT I'VE ONLY JUST BEGUN...

THAT VERY NIGHT, TOGETHER WITH THEIR OVERSEERS AND AN ESCORT OF LEGIONARIES, A COLUMN OF IBERIAN, LUSITANIAN, NUMIDIAN, BELGIAN AND GOTHIC SLAVES IS MAKING ITS WAY TOWARDS THE FOREST...



Silent night,
holy night, all
is calm...

THAT'S THE GOTHS
SINGING. THEY'RE
DREADFUL WHEN
THEY ALL SING
TOGETHER.

MAKE THEM SHUT UP!

WHAT WITH?
YOU DON'T WANT
TO HEAR THE CRACK
OF A SINGLE WHIP!

EXCUSE ME, HOMERUS, BUT JES
AND THE BELGIANS, WE'RE TRYING
TO GET TO SLEEP OVER THERE.
WOULD YOU MIND MAKING A
LITTLE LESS NOISE?

EVERYBODY QUITE
FINISHED? ALL OF YOU
GET DOWN TO WORK!
YOU WORK UNTIL DAWN
OR YOU'LL BE
SKINNED ALIVE!



COCK-A-DOODLE

DAWN!
WE'RE OFF!

WHAT DO YOU
MEAN, DAWN?



COCK-A-DOODLE-DOOOO

COME ON!
WE'RE OFF!

BUT IT'S THE
MIDDLE OF
THE NIGHT!

AND IN THE
GAULISH VILLAGE ...

COCK-A-DOODLE-DOO?
GOODNESS ME,
I HAD NO IDEA
IT WAS SO
LATE

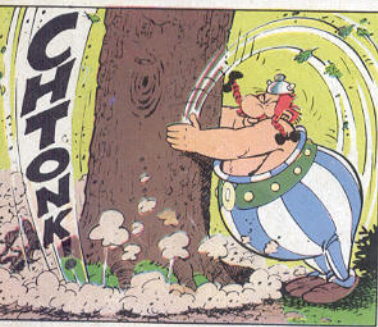
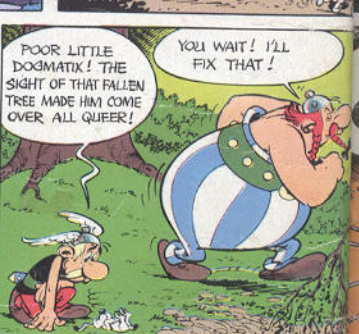
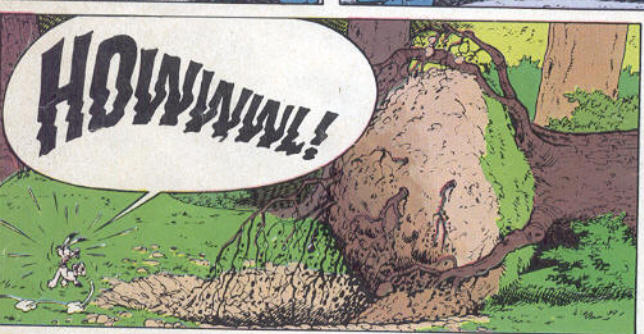
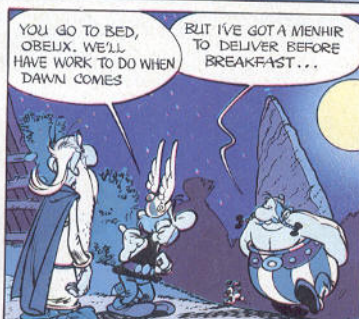
COCK-A-DOODLE-DOO

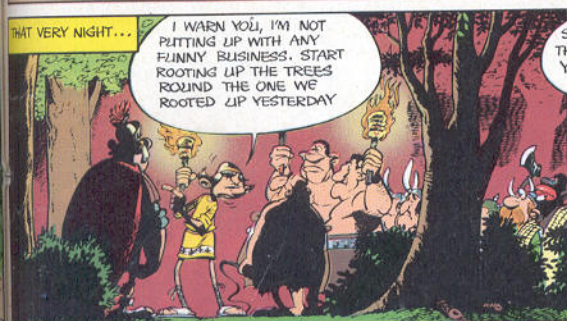


WHAT,
ALREADY?

THIS IS IT! WE MIGHT
HAVE KNOWN IT! THE SKY'S
FALLEN ON OUR HEADS!

COCK-A-DOODLE-DOO



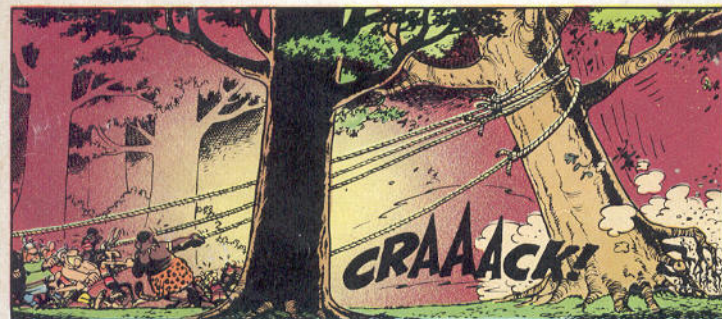




IN THE CAMP OF AQUARIUM

THAT NIGHT ...

WE'RE GOING TO DRAG THE TREES AWAY TO STOP THEM TAKING ROOT AGAIN ONCE THEY'RE DOWN



YES, I SEE. WE'RE GOING TO HAVE SOME FUN TOMORROW. LET'S GET BACK



IT'S DAYLIGHT, SOMNIFERUS!
COME AND SEE THE WORK WE GOT
THROUGH DURING THE NIGHT!

HM?

SOON WE'LL BE ABLE
TO BUILD THE FIRST
BLOCK OF FLATS IN THE
MANSIONS OF THE GODS

THIS IS ALL TOO EASY.
YOU'NT COUNT YOUR CHICKENS
BEFORE THEY'RE HATCHED...
GNOTHE SEALTON!

AND WHAT MIGHT
THAT MEAN?

NO IDEA; IT'S
GREEK TO ME

MEANWHILE ...

WHAT ARE
WE GOING TO DO,
O DRUID?

YOU'RE GOING TO
DROP AN ACORN
INTO EACH OF
THOSE HOLES...

THEY'RE COMMON OR GARDEN
ACORNS TREATED WITH
ONE OF MY LITTLE
POTIONS

LIKE THIS?

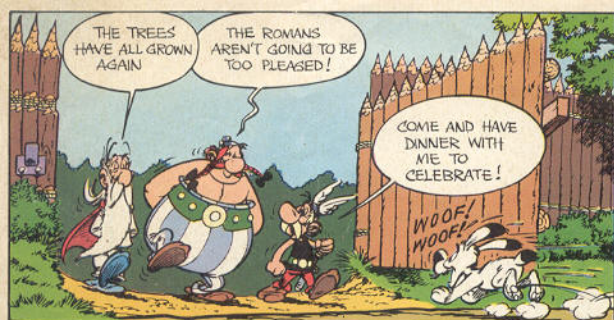
WELL, YOU
MIGHT HAVE DONE
IT IN A MORE DIGNIFIED
MANNER, BUT THAT'S
THE IDEA

FANTASTIC!

WHY? IT'S ONLY AN
OAK TREE LIKE
THE REST

BUT DIDN'T YOU
SEE HOW FAST
IT GREW?

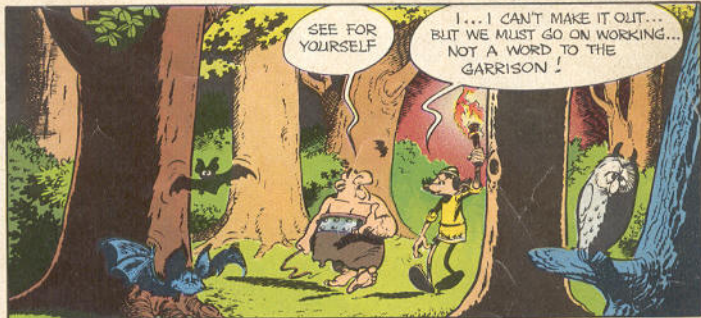
WELL, I'VE NEVER SEEN
AN OAK TREE GROWING
BEFORE, SO I DON'T KNOW
HOW FAST THEY DO
USUALLY GROW



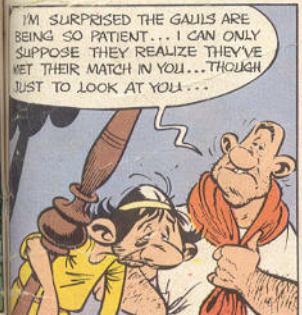
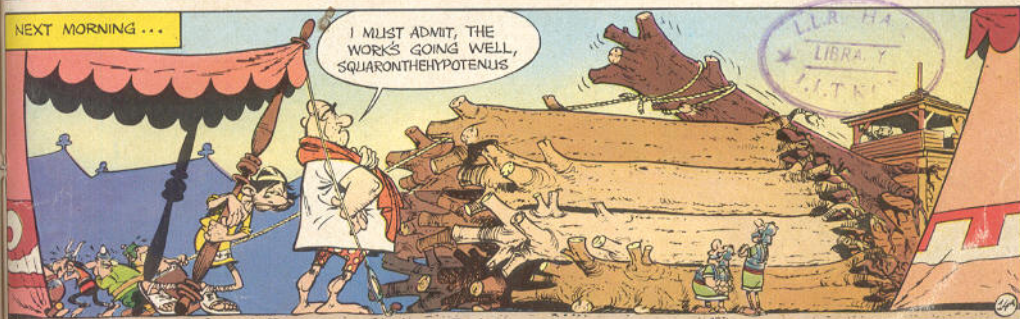
AND NOW YOU CAN UPROOT THIS ONE FOR ME!



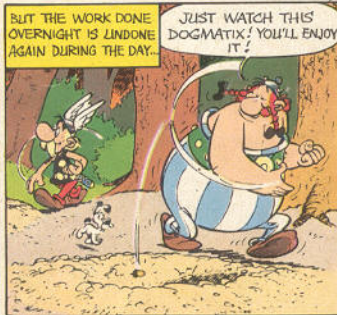
WHAT DO YOU MEAN,
THERE ISN'T ANY
CLEARING LEFT?



NEXT MORNING...

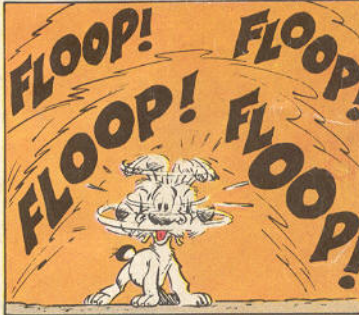


I'M SURPRISED THE GAULS ARE
BEING SO PATIENT... I CAN ONLY
SUPPOSE THEY REALIZE THEY'VE
MET THEIR MATCH IN YOU...THOUGH
JUST TO LOOK AT YOU...



BUT THE WORK DONE
OVERNIGHT IS LINDONE
AGAIN DURING THE DAY...

JUST WATCH THIS
DOGMATIX! YOU'LL ENJOY
IT!



AND NEXT
NIGHT...

I CAN'T LOOK.
IS... IS THE
CLEARING STILL
THERE?



I KNEW IT!
WELL, NEVER
MIND. PRESS
ON!



HOMBRE, I GET THE
FEELING WE'RE NOT
DOING ANYTHING VERY
USEFULL... NOT THAT
WE'RE BEING PAID
FOR IT, MIND
YOU!

AFTER SEVERAL NIGHTS' STRENUOUS WORK...

IN THE FACE OF THE EVIDENCE, I HAVE TO ADMIT YOU WERE RIGHT. YOU'VE DONE IT! LET'S BURY THE HATCHET. I'LL HELP YOU...



YOU'LL BE ABLE TO TELL CAESAR HOW USEFUL I WAS... LET'S GO AND HAVE A LOOK!

HAVE A LOOK AT WHAT?



THE BUILDING SITE. THERE MUST BE A VAST CLEARING BY NOW

BUT...AREN'T YOU AFRAID OF THE GAULS, IN BROAD DAYLIGHT?



HUH! YOU GET PLENTY OF TIME TO SEE THEM COMING, IN OPEN COUNTRY



WELL? WHERE IS THIS CLEARING?



THERE ISN'T ANY CLEARING!



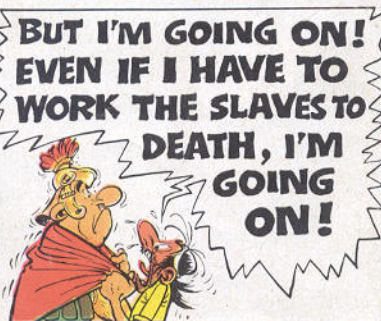
NO CLEARING? BUT THE TREE TRUNKS? WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?



HEEEEEERE! BOOOOOO!



BUT I'M GOING ON! EVEN IF I HAVE TO WORK THE SLAVES TO DEATH, I'M GOING ON!



DID YOU HEAR THAT? WE CAN'T HAVE THE SLAVES PAYING FOR THE STUPIDITY OF THESE ROMANS... I HAVE AN IDEA!



AREN'T YOU EVER AFRAID YOU MAY RUN OUT OF IDEAS?

LATER

WHY DID OUR
DRUID GIVE YOU AN
AMPHORA FULL OF
MAGIC POTION?

YOU'LL SOON SEE,
AND NO YOU CAN'T
HAVE ANY

BRARY
LITRG

THE SLAVES
ARE SHUT UP IN
THIS PART OF THE
CAMP: IT'S
SURROUNDED BY
GUARDS

IT'LL TAKE TOO
LONG TO GO AFTER
THEM ONE BY ONE.
LEAVE THIS
TO ME!

CALL YOUR
MATES

8-GUARDS!
HELP ME!

NO, NO,
NOT LIKE
THAT!

**GUARDS!
HELP HIM!**

SOON
AFTERWARDS...

WHICH OF YOU
IS THE LEADER,
SLAVE?

FLATURTHA, THE
NUMIDIAN

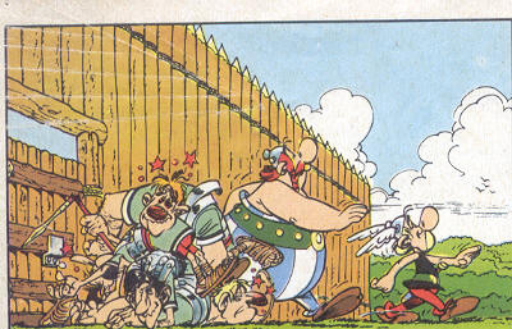
ARE YOU HAPPY
IN YOUR WORK,
O FLATURTHA?

WELL, THERE'S
NOT MUCH FUTURE
IN SLAVERY

THE ROMANS ARE GOING
TO WORK YOU TO DEATH.
YOU MUST REBEL!

IT'S EASY TO SAY
THAT, BUT THERE
ARE THE LEGIONARIES,
THE OVERSEERS... THEY
HAVE WHIPS AND
WEAPONS. THEY'RE
STRONGER THAN US

THIS IS
WHAT YOU
NEED



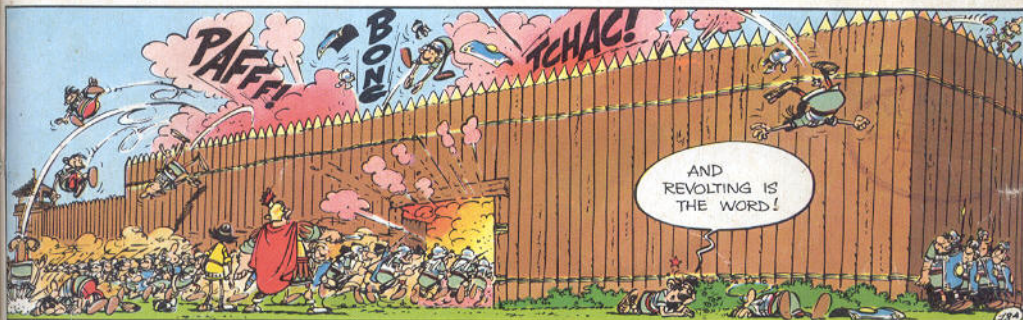
**THE SLAVES
ARE
RISING!**



THAT WAS ALL WE NEEDED!

AH, YES, BUT I KNOW ALL ABOUT THIS SORT OF THING! I'LL BRING THEM TO HEEL, BY JUPITER!

**RAISE THE ALARM!
THE SLAVES ARE
REVOLTING!**



WELL, ARE YOU BRINGING THEM TO HEEL OR AREN'T YOU?

WAIT A MINUTE... I'M JUST WONDERING WHETHER...



SOON AFTERWARDS...

YOU LOT WERE ON GUARD OUTSIDE THE SLAVES' CAMP TODAY... YOU DIDN'T HAPPEN TO SEE ANYONE GO IN, DID YOU?

ER... NO...



ABSOLUTELY POSITIVE?

NOW I COME TO THINK OF IT... THERE WAS THIS BIG FAT BLOKE...

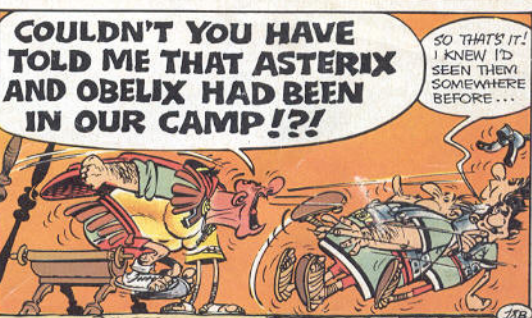
I THINK HE HAD A LITTLE BLOKE WITH HIM... BUT SO SMALL THAT...

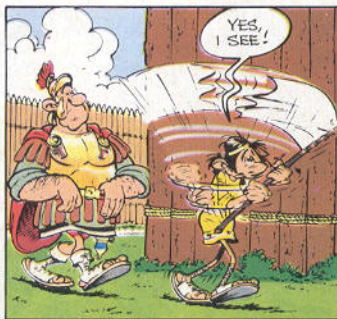
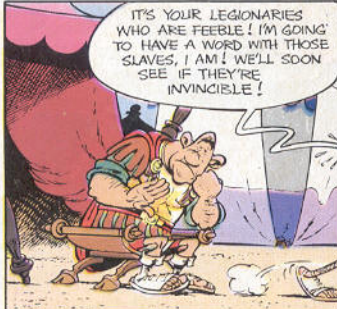
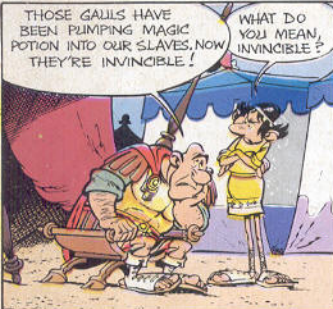
BESIDES, WE HARDLY EXCHANGED A WORD



COULDN'T YOU HAVE TOLD ME THAT ASTERIX AND OBELIX HAD BEEN IN OUR CAMP!?!

SO THAT'S IT! I KNEW I'D SEEN THEM SOMEWHERE BEFORE...





WHILE SOMNIFERUS IS DEALING WITH HIS OWN LITTLE PROBLEMS, WORK HAS BEGUN AGAIN ON THE BUILDING SITE, NOW THAT THE AGREEMENT AND THE MAGIC POTION HAVE PROVED EFFECTIVE...

ALLEZ...

OOOP!

CRACK!

IT'S UNHEARD-OF! THE SLAVES HAVE BEEN WORKING BETTER SINCE WE STARTED PAYING THEM!

YES, IT MEANS MORE INITIAL OUTLAY, BUT BIGGER PROFITS!

AND THINK OF THE SAVING ON WHIPS!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND, ASTERIX! I THOUGHT THEY WERE GOING TO REBEL AGAINST THE ROMANS AND STOP WORK ...

EEK! THIS TREE'S MOVING!

CRACK!

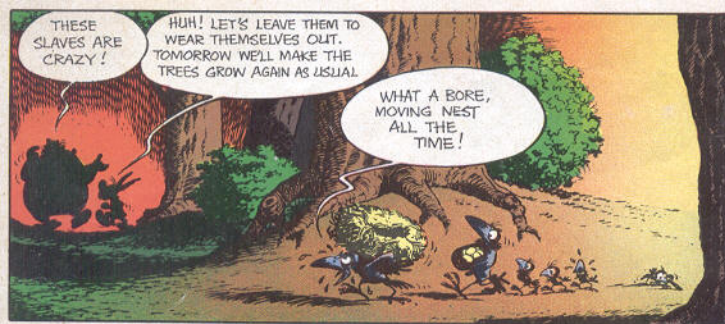
FLOOTH!

FLATURTHA! WHY ARE YOU PULLING UP THESE TREES?

NO VISITORS ON THE BUILDING SITE. PUSH OFF!

LOOK HERE, NUMIDIAN...

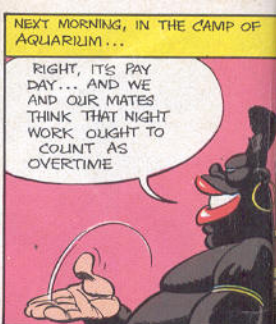
OVERSEERS! NO SLACKING! I FEEL TIRED AND HUNGRY. I'D LIKE A QUICK WHIP!



THESE
SLAVES ARE
CRAZY!

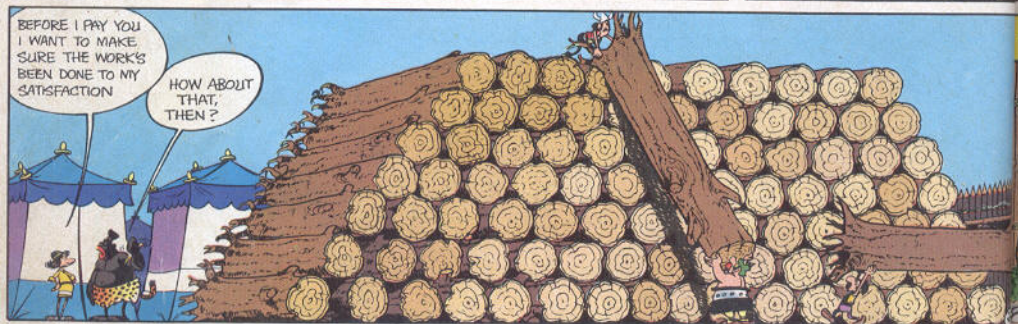
HUH! LET'S LEAVE THEM TO
WEAR THEMSELVES OUT.
TOMORROW WE'LL MAKE THE
TREES GROW AGAIN AS USUAL.

WHAT A BORE,
MOVING NEST
ALL THE
TIME!



NEXT MORNING, IN THE CAMP OF
AQUARIUM...

RIGHT, IT'S PAY
DAY... AND WE
AND OUR MATES
THINK THAT NIGHT
WORK OUGHT TO
COUNT AS
OVERTIME



BEFORE I PAY YOU
I WANT TO MAKE
SURE THE WORK'S
BEEN DONE TO MY
SATISFACTION

HOW ABOUT
THAT,
THEN?



I'M NOT PAYING YOU TO BRING
ME TREES; I'M PAYING YOU
TO CLEAR THE FOREST AND
BUILD FLATS. LET'S GO AND
HAVE A LOOK AT THE
BUILDING SITE



SOON
AFTERWARDS...

WELL, THE
FOREST IS STILL
HERE!

BUT YOU KNOW THE
TREES WE PULLED UP
CAME FROM HERE

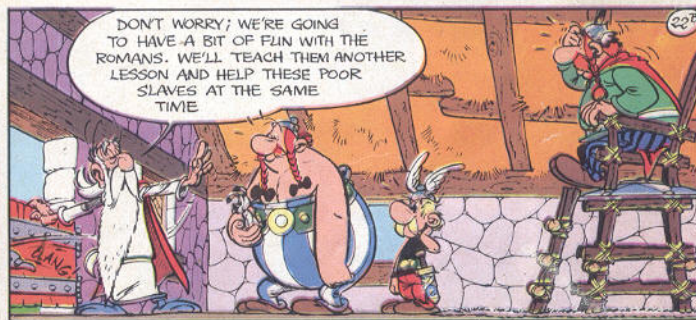
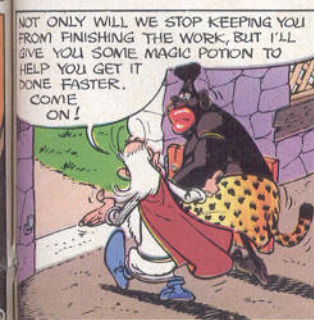
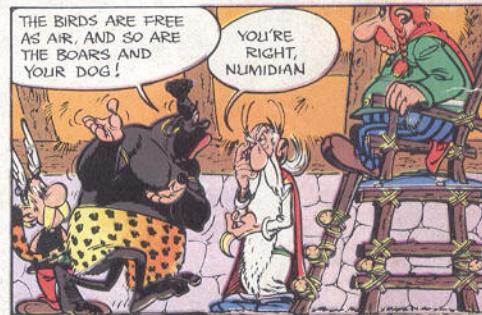
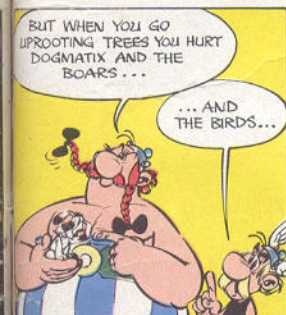
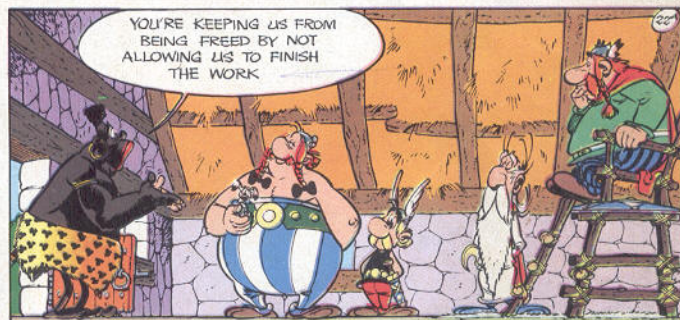
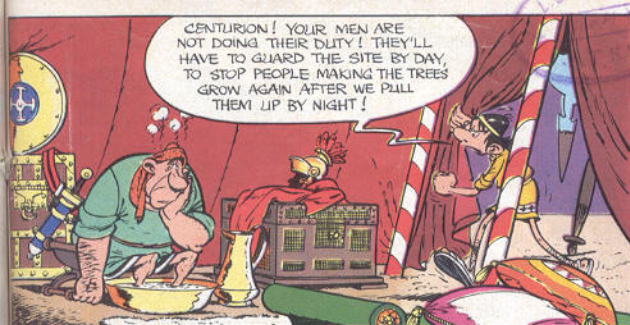


THERE ISN'T ANY PROOF,
AND REMEMBER THAT YOU WON'T
BE FREED UNTIL THE WORK'S
FINISHED. IT'S NOT COMING
ALONG VERY WELL,
IS IT?



YOUR TROUBLE
IS YOU CAN'T SEE
THE WOOD FOR
THE TREES

THE PROBLEM'S
CLEARING



SQUARON THE HYPOTENUS, THE ARCHITECT, HAS EVERY REASON TO BE PLEASED. THE WORK GETS DONE AT SPECTACULAR SPEED... NOW! THEY'RE PAYING OVERTIME...

OH, COME ON, OBELIX! GET A FIX KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING

THE SUPPLY OF BOARS IS DRYING UP!

ON THE OTHER HAND, WE'RE GOING TO HAVE HEAPS OF NEW ROMANS

I HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT, ASTERIX, I JUST HOPE TO TOUT! YOU'RE RIGHT!

CENTURION SOMNIFERUS IS SATISFIED AS WELL. A PERMANENT COUNCIL HAS BEEN SET UP AND THE POSSIBILITY OF THE TWO SIDES REACHING AN AGREEMENT AT SOME FUTURE DATE CANNOT BE RULED OUT

SOMNIFERUS, I'M OFF TO ROME TO TELL CAESAR HOW WELL THE PROJECT IS GETTING ON

AS SOON AS THE FIRST BLOCK OF FLATS IS FINISHED AND THE ROMANS HAVE MOVED IN, WE SHALL BE ABLE TO SAY THAT THE MANSIONS OF THE GODS HAVE DEFEATED THE BARBARIANS

MEANWHILE THEY'VE CHANGED A GREAT MANY THINGS ALREADY...

LISTEN TO THE NEW COOKHOUSE CALL. IT'S THE RESULT OF A NEW AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OFFICERS AND THE MEN...



THE ARCHITECT SQUARON THE-
HYPTENUS, BACK FROM GAUL,
GRAVES AN AUDIENCE OF
CAESAR!

SHOW HIM
IN!

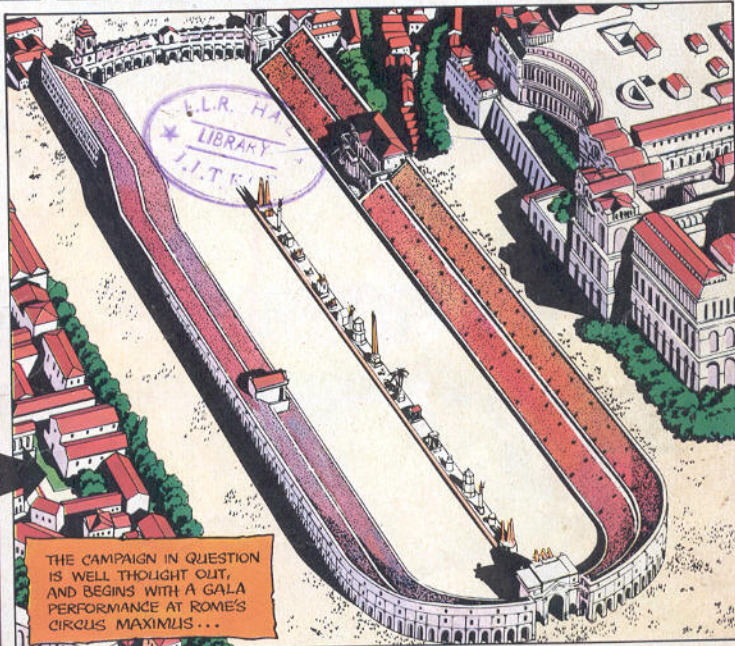


AVE, CAESAR! THE
FIRST BUILDING IN THE
MANSIONS OF THE GODS
WILL SOON BE FINISHED!

IF WE SUCCEED IN GETTING
ROMANS TO LIVE IN THE
VICINITY OF THOSE GAULS,
I CAN SAY NOT ONLY VENI
AND VIDI, BUT REALLY VICI
AS WELL!



I'VE PREPARED A
PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN
TO FIND TENANTS FOR
THE MANSIONS OF
THE GODS



THE CAMPAIGN IN QUESTION
IS WELL THOUGHT OUT,
AND BEGINS WITH A GALA
PERFORMANCE AT ROME'S
CIRCUS MAXIMUS...

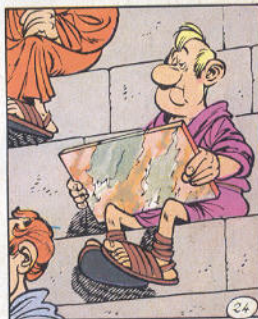
GALA PERFORMANCE

A GRAND RAFFLE WILL BE
HELD AT THE END OF
THE GLADIATORS' FIGHTS
THE WINNER WILL RECEIVE
A FLAT IN THE MANSIONS OF
THE GODS

RETAIN THE NUMBERED TICKET YOU RECEIVED
AT THE TURNSTILE

THE MANSIONS OF
THE GODS? WHAT IN
THE NAME OF THE
ELYSIAN FIELDS
ARE THOSE?

PERHAPS
WE'LL FIND OUT
FROM THIS
BROCHURE
THEY HANDED
US



WOULD YOU LIKE TO LIVE LIKE A GOD? IF SO... THE MANSIONS



FOR THOSE WHO HAVE HAD THEIR FILL OF THE POLLUTED ATMOSPHERE OF THE VRBS, THE PRESSURES OF THE RAT RACE, PURE AND SWEET AIR AWAITS THEM IN A VAST, SUPERB NATURAL PARK...

LESS THAN THREE WEEKS AWAY FROM THE CENTRE OF ROME AND JUST ONE WEEK FROM THE CENTRE OF LUTETIA (GAVL)

A HEALTHY AND HAPPY LIFE,

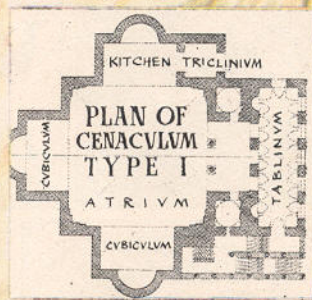
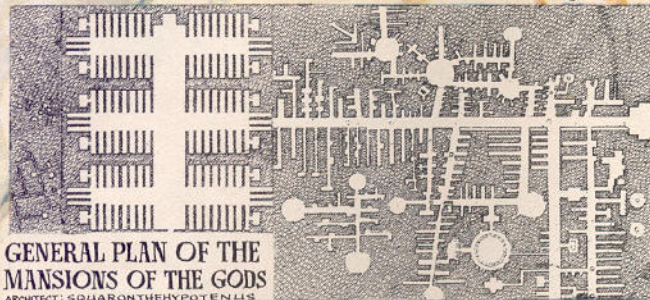


AT DAWN, WOKEN BY THE MELODIOUS SONG OF THE GAVLISH COCKEREL, THE ROMAN MATRONS GET UP, AS WELL AS THEIR HUSBANDS AND CHILDREN, WHILE THE HUSBAND IS VISITED BY THE BARBER (BOUGHT LOCALLY), THE LADY OF THE HOUSE ARRANGES FOR JENTACVLVM TO BE SERVED TO THE CHILDREN, WHO ARE GETTING READY FOR SCHOOL. ONLY THEN WILL SHE CALL HER HAIRDRESSER FOR HER MORNING SET, WHILE WATCHING THE WILD BOARS FROLIC ON THE LAWNS OF THE PARK...



IN THE SCHOOLS OF THE MANSIONS OF THE GODS, THE EDUCATION OF THE CHILDREN IS ENTRUSTED TO SPECIALLY SELECTED SLAVES, WHO REPORT ON THE PROGRESS OF THEIR PUPILS AT THE MEETINGS OF THE PARENT-SLAVE ASSOCIATION. THIS ARRANGEMENT ALLOWS FOR THE USE OF THE WHIP EITHER ON THE PUPIL OR THE SLAVE, IF THERE ARE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION. WHILE THE CHILDREN ARE AT SCHOOL, THE HUSBAND GOES TO WORK. IF HE WORKS IN ROME, HE COMES HOME EVERY SIX WEEKS, FOR A GOOD NIGHT'S REST.

OF THE GODS ARE FOR YOV !



WORTHY OF A GOD !

ONCE HER HUSBAND AND CHILDREN HAVE GONE, THE MATRON VISITS HER FRIENDS FOR XISES, AFTERWARDS SHE MAY GO TO THE SHOPPING PRECINCT (TO BE CONSTRUCTED) WHERE SHE CAN FIND ALL SHE NEEDS, FROM FOOD AND CLOTHES TO JEWELLERY AND SLAVES. SHE IS HAVING A DINNER PARTY, AND SHE'S ONE SLAVE SHORT? SHE GOES STRAIGHT TO THE SELF-SERVICE SLAVE MARKET! SOON THE FAMILY WILL BE HOME. IT IS TIME TO PREPARE THE CENA.

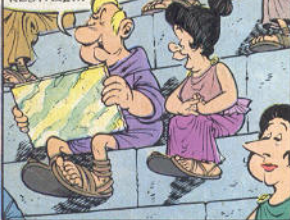
WHEN THE HUSBAND COMES HOME FROM WORK HE CAN VISIT THE BATHS AND THE SPORTS HALL WITH HIS FRIENDS, OR GO FOR A ROMANTIC STROLL WITH HIS WIFE ALONG THE SHADY FOOTPATHS OF THE PARK (WHERE THE WILD BOARS FROLIC). IN THE EVENING, HE CAN GO TO THE GLADISEVM (TO BE CONSTRUCTED), OR SIMPLY HAVE A FEW FRIENDS IN FOR AN ORGY. ALL HE HAS TO DO THEN IS GO TO BED AND AWAIT THE DAWNING OF A MAGNIFICENT NEW DAY. THE SORT OF DAY YOV CAN FIND ONLY IN THE MANSIONS OF THE GODS!



THAT'S ALL VERY WELL,
BUT I SEEM TO
REMEMBER THAT THERE
ARE PARTS OF GAUL
WHICH ARE NOT VERY
RESTFUL...

OH, IT'S
IN GAUL,
IS IT?

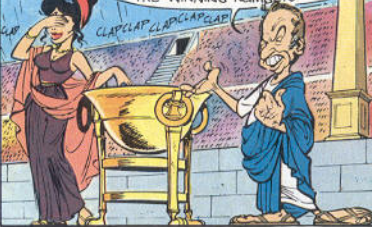
THE LAST PAIR OF GLADIATORS
HAVE FINISHED MASSACRING EACH
OTHER, AND SHOWBUSINUS THE
FAMOUS MASTER OF CEREMONIES,
COMES TO THE CENTRE OF
THE ARENA



AND NOW THE GREAT MOMENT HAS
ARRIVED! YOU'RE ALL WONDERFUL, AND
AFTER THESE WONDERFUL GLADIATORS WHO
HAVE KILLED ONE ANOTHER FOR YOU...GIVE
THEM A BIG HAND, FOLKS, THE SURVIVORS
AS WELL AS THE
OTHER ONES...



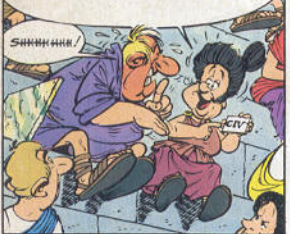
THANK YOU... WE'RE GOING TO PICK THE
FORTUNATE WINNER OF ONE OF THE CENACULA
IN THE MANSIONS OF THE GODS... WE HAVE HERE
A WONDERFUL VESTAL VIRGIN- GIVE HER A BIG
HAND, FOLKS! SHE WILL DRAW
THE WINNING NUMBER.



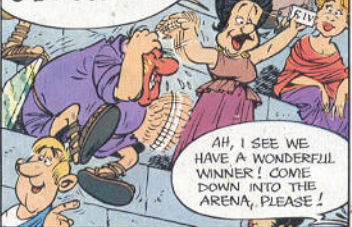
**CIV!
WHO HAS
GOT CIV?**



IT'S YOU!



**HERE HE IS!
OVER HERE!**



WHAT IF I REFUSE
TO GO TO
GAUL?

YOU'LL STAY IN
THE ARENA AND YOU'LL
LET IN THE LIONS

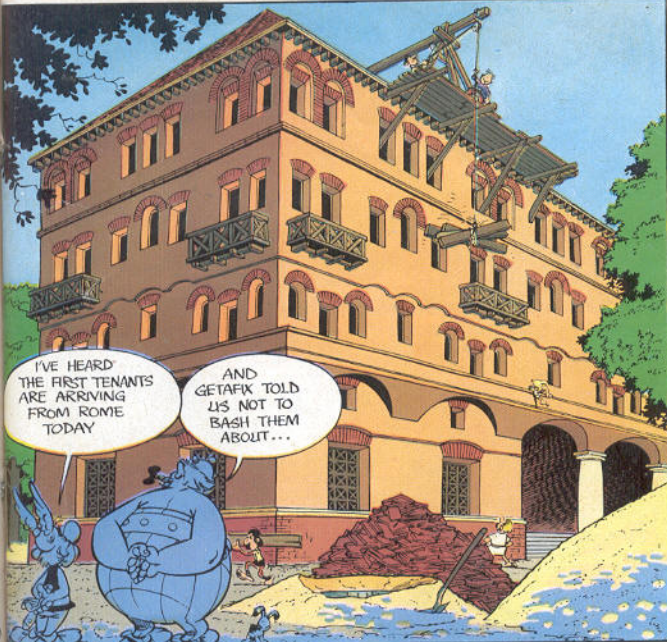


**DID YOU
HEAR THAT?**



**HE ACCEPTS!
GIVE THIS WONDERFUL
WINNER A BIG HAND,
FOLKS!!!**





I'VE HEARD
THE FIRST TENANTS
ARE ARRIVING
FROM ROME
TODAY

AND
GETAFIX TOLD
US NOT TO
BASH THEM
ABOUT...



I KNOW WHAT
LINE I'M TAKING:
I SHALL IGNORE
THEM!

SO SHALL
I!



CAN'T THINK WHAT'S
STOPPING ME KNOCKING
THEIR BLASTED
FLATS DOWN!

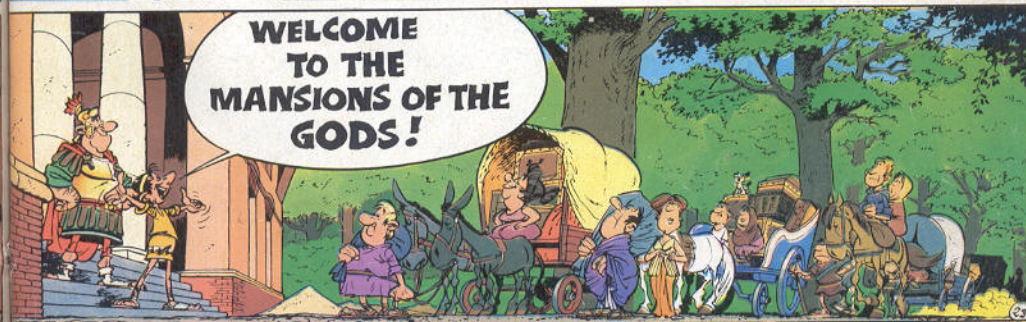
TAKE IT EASY! AT
LEAST THE SLAVES HAVE
BEEN FREED. THAT'S
ONE GOOD THING!



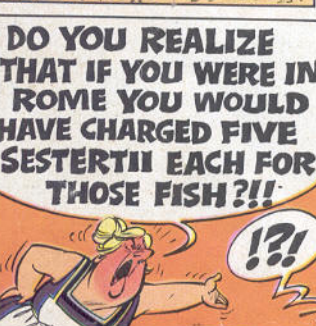
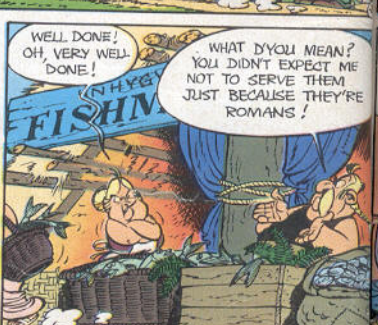
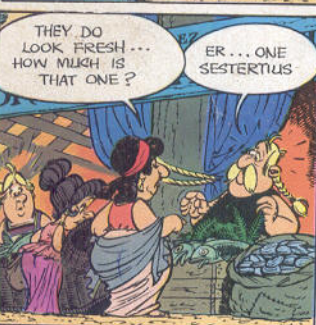
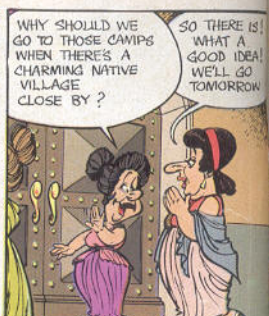
SURE
ENOUGH...

WHAT ARE WE
GOING TO DO NOW
WE'RE FREE?

NOW OUR SHIP'S
COME HOME, WE'LL
FLOAT A COMPANY,
ME HEARTIES!

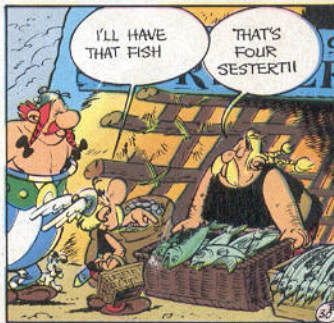
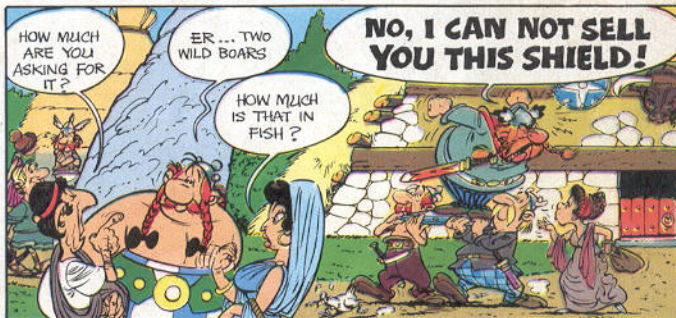
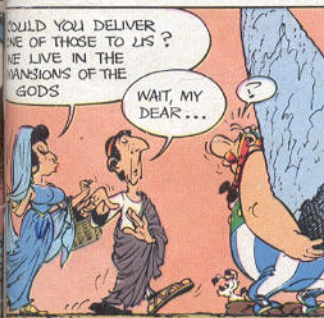
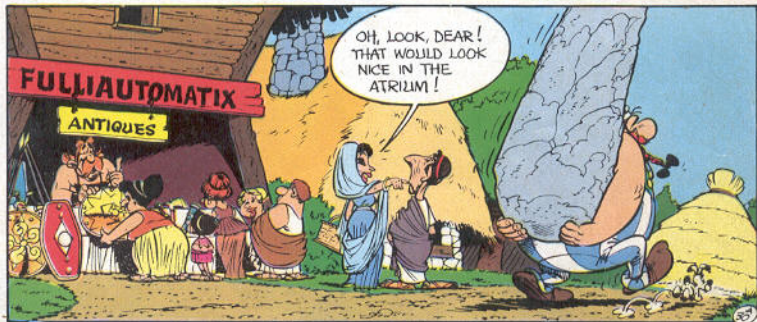
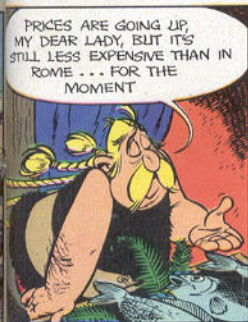


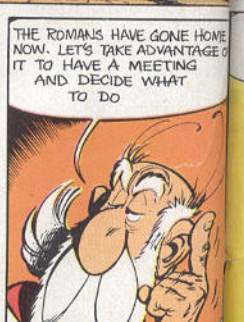
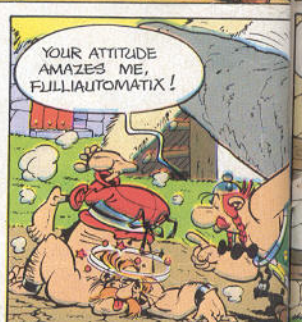
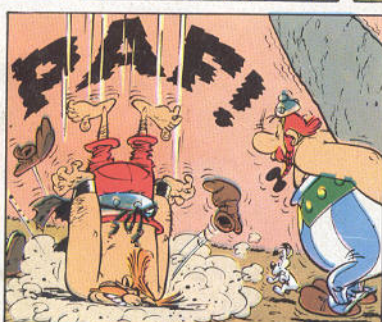
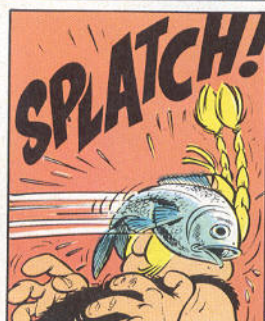
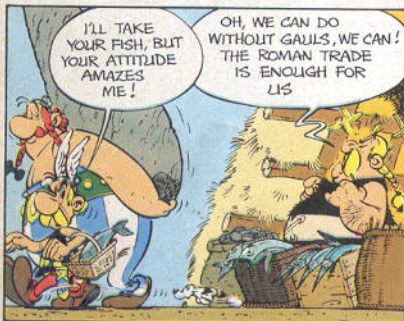
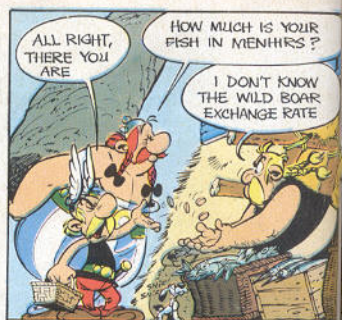
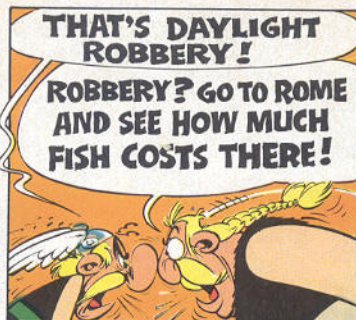
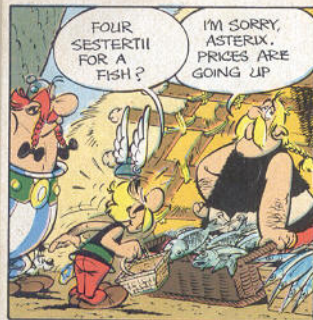
WELCOME
TO THE
MANSIONS OF THE
GODS!





LIVERLY FISH! THREE SESTERII EACH !





FRIENDS! THE ROMANS HAVE DESTROYED THE FOREST, AND IN THE END THEY WILL DESTROY US ALL. I'M JUST WONDERING WHETHER WE SHOULDN'T GET RID OF THEM!



FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE FISH TRADE, ROMANS MEAN PROGRESS

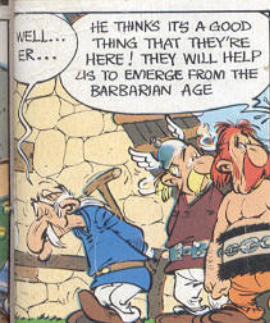


I WAS A BLACKSMITH, AND THANKS TO THEM, I'M NOW AN ANTIQUE DEALER!



YOU ARE THE OLDEST MEMBER OF THE VILLAGE, GERIATRIX. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT HAVING ROMANS IN OUR FOREST?

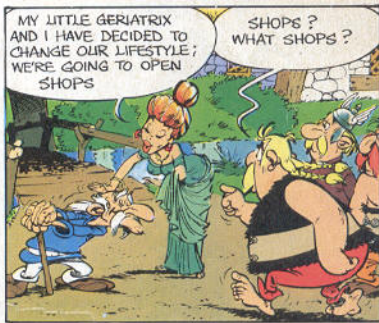
WELL... ER... HE THINKS IT'S A GOOD THING THAT THEY'RE HERE! THEY WILL HELP US TO EMERGE FROM THE BARBARIAN AGE



YOU MUST ADMIT IT'S MORE ELEGANT THAN OUR USUAL TATTERS!



MY LITTLE GERIATRIX AND I HAVE DECIDED TO CHANGE OUR LIFESTYLE; WE'RE GOING TO OPEN SHOPS



SHOPS? WHAT SHOPS?

SHALL HAVE AN ANTIQUE SHOP, AND DEAR GERIATRIX A FISHMONGER'S



ANTIQUES, ALL RIGHT, BUT A FISHMONGER'S? ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?

ANTIQUES? IF GERIATRIX IS GOING TO SELL ANTIQUES YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO MAKE OUT WHICH IS WHICH

HOW ABOUT MY STICK? CAN YOU MAKE OUT MY STICK?

TAKE NO NOTICE OF THEM, GERIATRIX MY LOVE!

THERE ARE GOING TO BE TOO MANY FISHMONGERS ROUND HERE. I'M OPENING MINE TOMORROW!

AND I'M OPENING MINE!

THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK!

I DON'T WANT ANY FISHMONGERS NEAR MY ANTIQUE SHOP!



NEXT MORNING

GETAFIX, LOOK HOW OUR VILLAGE HAS CHANGED! AND THAT'S NOT ALL...

FISHMONGER

ANTIQUES

ANTIQUES

FISHMONGER

ANTIQUES

DEAR ME, NO...

... THE WONDERFUL SPIRIT OF CO-OPERATION WE USED TO HAVE HAS DISAPPEARED

NOW I'M CERTAIN, ASTERIX. ALL THIS IS PART OF JULIUS CAESAR'S PLAN TO GET RID OF US!

I'LL SELL MY FISH CHEAPER THAN YOURS!

CAN YOU SEE MY FISH? CAN YOU SEE IT?

WHO WANTS TO FEEL MY ANTIQUE?

CAESAR IS USING THE ROMANS WHO LIVE IN THE MANSIONS OF THE GODS, BUT THEY DON'T REALIZE WHAT IS HAPPENING

WE MUST GET RID OF THEM... I'VE GOT AN IDEA

NEXT MORNING

A VACANT FLAT IN THE MANSIONS? AFRAID NOT, EVERYTHING'S TAKEN - IT'S A GREAT SUCCESS!

SOON WE'RE GOING TO CUT DOWN THE REMAINDER OF THE FOREST AND BUILD SOME NEW FLATS. WE COULD RESERVE YOU ONE OF THOSE...

TEEHEE! IF THE GALLS ARE STARTING TO LEAVE THE VILLAGE, THE LAST CENTRE OF RESISTANCE AGAINST THE ROMAN OCCUPATION WILL HAVE DISAPPEARED. CAESAR WILL BE DELIGHTED!

THAT SAME AFTERNOON, IN THE VILLAGE...

GRRRRRRRRR! AAAAH!

OBELIX! CALM DOWN, OBELIX, TAKE IT EASY! GRRRRRRR!

BY JUPITER! WHAT'S GOT INTO HIM?

TAKE NO NOTICE, HE DOESN'T LIKE THE LOOK OF YOU, THAT'S ALL. WE BARBARIANS ARE LIKE THAT. WE ACT ON INSTINCT

GRRRRR!

THAT GAUL IS CRAZY!

JUST A LITTLE, YES. BUT AS LONG AS I'M HERE THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY

LET'S GET BACK HOME!

YES, LET'S!

OH, LOOK AT THE PRETTY FLOWERS! HOLD MY BAG, I'M GOING TO PICK A LITTLE BUNCH

ALL RIGHT, BUT GET ON WITH IT

GRRRRRRR!

YOU CAN COME DOWN. I'M HERE!

GRRRRR

D-D-DON'T LET GO OF HIM!

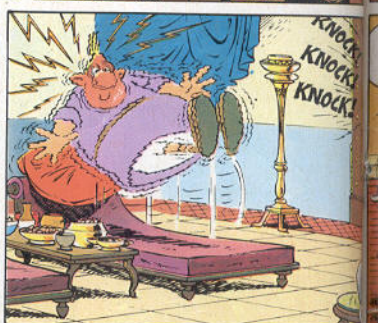
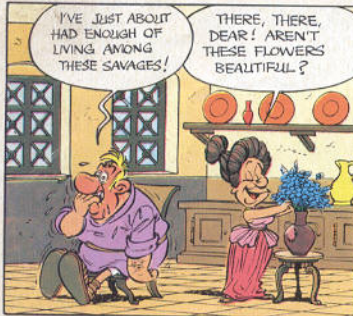
DON'T BE AFRAID; HE'S NOT REALLY VICIOUS, YOU KNOW. HE JUST LIKES TO PLAY GAMES

PLAY GAMES?

A FINE GAME THAT WAS!

HOW DO YOU MANAGE TO SEEM SO FEROCIOUS, OBELIX?

I'VE BEEN WATCHING DOGMATIX WHEN HE'S IN A BAD TEMPER!



WAKEUP, THE
MORNING

WHAT'S THIS?
YOU'RE GOING BACK
TO ROMIE, JUST LIKE
THAT?

I WON THIS FLAT
IN A GAME AND NOW
I'M GIVING IT BACK.
**AND WHAT A
GAME THAT WAS!**

I'VE HEARD YOU
MIGHT HAVE A FLAT
VACANT?

HMM?

NEWS TRAVELS FAST! WELL,
JUST SO HAPPENS WE DO.
YOU CAN HAVE IT IF
YOU LIKE

OH, IT ISN'T
FOR ME

IT'S FOR
OUR BARD
CACOFONIX

THERE YOU ARE.
STAIRCASE A, LAST
FLOOR, NUMBER CLV-
DO YOU WANT ME TO
SHOW YOU THE WAY?

DON'T BOTHER;
I KNOW IT

DO YOU
LIKE IT?

YES, IT'S VERY NICE...
BUT WHY ARE YOU AND
OBELIX TREATING ME
TO THIS FLAT?

SO YOU CAN SING IN
PEACE. YOU HAVE OFTEN
CALLED US BARBARIANS, AND
YOU WERE RIGHT. HERE, IN
THE MANSIONS OF THE GODS
YOU WILL HAVE
CIVILIZED NEIGHBOURS

IN THAT CASE, I ACCEPT! AT LAST I CAN PRACTISE
MY ART SURROUNDED BY REFINED PEOPLE!

THAT'S WHAT WE
SAID TO EACH
OTHER: NOTHING
BUT THE BEST FOR
OUR BARD!

THOSE POOR
ROMANS... I'M SORRY
FOR THEM

WE REALLY ARE LAYING
IT ON A BIT THICK!

AH, HOW PEACEFUL...
WE ARE FAR FROM THE
PLEASURES OF ROME,
BUT
HOW QUIET IT IS ...

GOOD
NIGHT

GOOD
NIGHT

TZOING!
TZOING!

CAN YOU HEAR A
FUNNY LITTLE
NOISE ?

IT'S PROBABLY A
WILD BOAR
FROLICKING ON
THE LAWN

RIGHT.
HERE GOES!

A WILD BOAR
IN AN OAK
TREE ...

ON THE SECOND DAY OF
SOLSTICE MY TRUE LOVE SENT
TO ME, TWO STANDING STONE
AND A WILD BOAR IN AN OAK
TREE. ON THE THIRD DAY...

THE
GAULS ARE
ATTACKING !

THE
GODS
ARE
ANGRY !

THE BUILDING'S
COLLAPSING !

I PREFER
THE STREET
CRIES OF
ROME !

QUOUSQUE TANDEM?
QUOUSQUE TANDEM ?

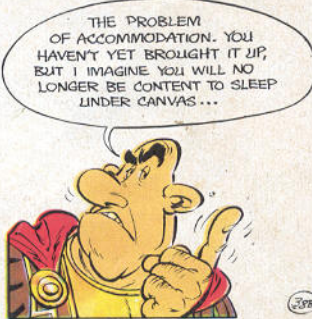
START PACKING!
TOMORROW WE'RE OFF!

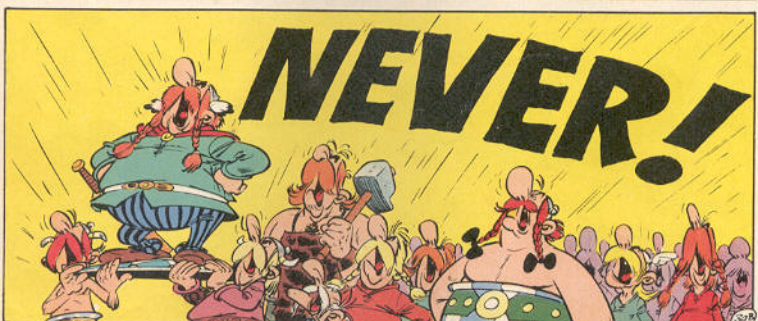
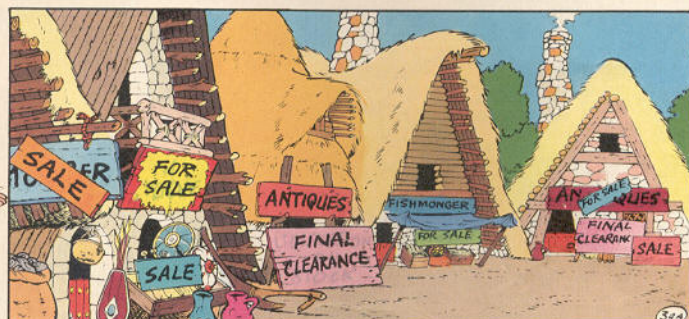
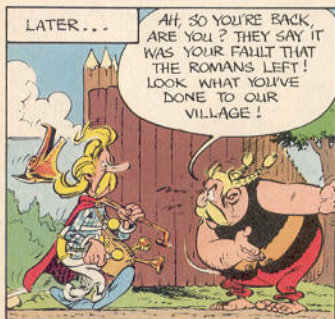
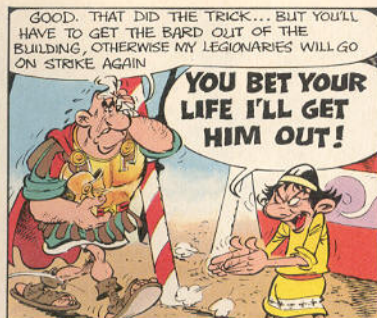
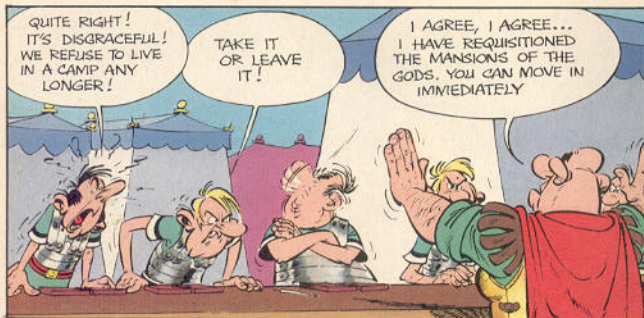
ON THE FIRST DAY
OF SOLSTICE MY TRUE LOVE
SENT TO ME ...

SURE ENOUGH,
NEXT MORNING...

WHAT? YOU'RE
ALL LEAVING THE FLATS?
JUST BECAUSE OF A GAUL
WHO SINGS LOUD AND
FLAT?

PEOPLE WHO SING LIKE
THAT ARE CAPABLE OF
ANYTHING! WE'VE HAD ENOUGH
OF BARBARIANS! WE'RE GOING
BACK TO ROME!





THE N.C.O.'S WILL HAVE THE LUXURY FLATS ON THE LOWER FLOORS... THE OTHER RANKS WILL LIVE ON THE UPPER FLOORS...

I'VE STATIONED SENTRIES ON THE ROOF... THEY WILL ACT AS AERIALS TO WARN US OF ANY DANGER

MEALS WILL BE SERVED IN THE ENTRY ATRIUM. EVERY LEGIONARY ON DUTY WILL COME WITH HIS COMRADES TO FETCH HIS RATIONS TO EAT IN HIS PRIVATE TRICLINIUM...

OF COURSE, WE SHALL HAVE TO HAVE MEETINGS OF THE TENANTS' ASSOCIATION. I DON'T CARE VERY MUCH FOR THE DECORATION IN THE ATRIUM...

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THE DECORATION? I THINK IT'S VERY NICE...

WHAT ABOUT LETTERS? WILL THEY BE DELIVERED, OR SHALL WE HAVE TO GO AND COLLECT THEM?

AND THE LAWN? WHO'LL LOOK AFTER THAT?

SOME TIME LATER...

MY LEGIONARIES NEED A GOOD BATTLE. THEY'RE GOING SOFT...

THAT'S YOUR PROBLEM. MINE IS JUST THE REVERSE: TO SEE THERE AREN'T ANY MORE QUARRELS

TANTARAAA

TANTAN TARAAA

THAT'S THE SENTRIES ON THE ROOF!

LET'S HAVE SOME HUSH!

MUSIC ISN'T ALLOWED!

WE MUST PUT THAT ON THE AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE TENANTS' ASSOCIATION!

WHAT THE...

LOOK, CENTURION! LOOK!



**STOP! STOP!
THIS IS PRIVATE
PROPERTY!**



AND WHAT IS MORE,
PLEASE KEEP OFF
THE GRASS!

IN THE FIRST PLACE, I'M NOT ON
THE GRASS, AND IN THE SECOND
PLACE, YOU ROMANS HAVE THROWN
ONE OF OUR MEN OUT, SO WE ARE
GOING TO THROW YOU OUT!



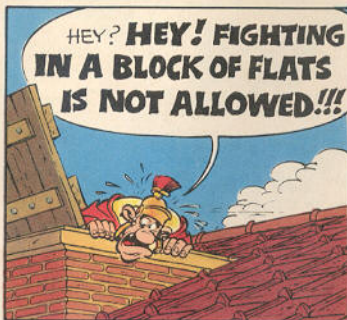
**CHARGE!
REPULSE
INTRUDERS!!**



RIGHTO!



HEY? HEY! FIGHTING
IN A BLOCK OF FLATS
IS NOT ALLOWED!!!



**SPLIT UP! I'LL
TAKE STAIRCASE A.
ASTERIX AND
THE OTHERS
WILL TAKE
STAIRCASE B!**



**MAY WE
COME IN?**

**I'M IN MY BATH!
I'M IN MY
BATH!**

**THE LAST THREE
FLOORS ARE MINE!**

**KNOCK
AFTER
GOING IN, BY
TOUTATIS!**

**I'VE
ALREADY HAD
MINE! I'VE
ALREADY HAD
MINE!**

**SHUT
UP, OBELIX!
YOU'LL HAVE
WHAT'S
LEFT!**

**WHY
ARE YOU
WAITING
TO GO
DOWN, BY
JUPITER?**

**TELL
THAT DOG TO
LET GO OF ME!
DOGS ARE NOT
ALLOWED IN THE
BUILDING!**

THE CHANGING
OF THE GUARD'S TIME; THOSE
ARE OUR ORDERS

**OUCH!
WATCH
OUT, BY
BELISAMA!**

**SORRY, O
CHIEF! THE
CEILING'S RATHER
LOW HERE!**

**I'M
NOT HERE!
I TELL YOU
I'M NOT
HERE!**

**I SHALL
HAVE SOMETHING
TO SAY AT THE
NEXT MEETING OF
THE TENANTS'
ASSOCIATION!**

LISTEN, WE DON'T
LIVE HERE, YOU UNDERSTAND...
WE'RE JUST VISITING FRIENDS
WHO ARE HAVING A FANCY DRESS
BALL, THAT'S WHY WE'RE ALL
DISGUISED AS LEGIONAIRES... NOW,
IN THE OTHER FLATS...
ARE YOU LISTENING
WHEN I SPEAK TO
YOU?

**GET THEM ROUND
THE BACK, AT THE
SERVICE ENTRANCE,
BY BELENOS!**

SOUND THE RETREAT!



SOON AFTERWARDS...

HOW NICE IT WILL BE TO BE BACK IN CAMP...

YES, LIFE UNDER CANVAS IS SO MUCH HEALTHIER!

COME ON, OUT OF YOUR BATH!

NOT BEFORE WE'RE BACK HOME!



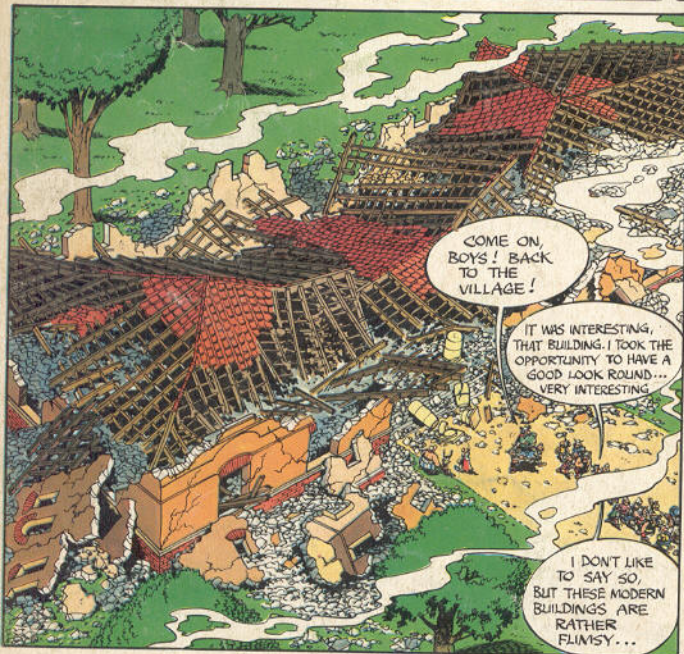
SO THERE YOU ARE! GET OUT OF HERE AND NEVER DARKEN OUR CAMP SITE AGAIN! THE MANSIONS OF THE GODS ARE DONE FOR!



YOU'RE RIGHT! I NEVER WANT TO HEAR ANOTHER WORD ABOUT THOSE BARBARIANS. LET CAESAR DEAL WITH THEM AS BEST HE CAN...ANYWAY, I'VE GOT A CONTRACT TO BUILD SOME PYRAMIDS IN EGYPT...



IT WILL BE A PLEASANT CHANGE. BUILDINGS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DESERT, WITH NICE QUIET TENANTS...



COME ON, BOYS! BACK TO THE VILLAGE!

IT WAS INTERESTING, THAT BUILDING. I TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE A GOOD LOOK ROUND... VERY INTERESTING

I DON'T LIKE TO SAY SO, BUT THESE MODERN BUILDINGS ARE RATHER FLimsY...

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO NOW, GETAFIX?



WE'LL GET THE TREES TO GROW AGAIN



AT NIGHTFALL, THE FOREST HAS
TAKEN OVER ONCE AGAIN. ONLY A
FEW ROMAN REMAINS SHOW THAT
THE MANSIONS OF THE GODS
EVER STOOD THERE ...

O DRUID
GETAFIX, DO YOU
THINK WE
CAN ALWAYS STOP
THE COURSE OF
EVENTS AS
WE HAVE
JUST
DONE ?

OF COURSE
NOT,
ASTERIX ...

BUT WE
STILL HAVE
TIME,
PLENTY OF
TIME !

**WHAT DO
YOU MEAN,
TIME ?**

WE HAVEN'T GOT ANY TIME
TO WASTE ! THE WILD BOARS
ARE READY ; WE'RE ONLY
WAITING FOR YOU !

AND NOT FAR FROM THE ROMAN RUINS, IN
A NATURAL CLEARING IN THE FOREST,
FREQUENTED BY WILD BOARS AND BIRDS,
OUR FRIENDS THE GAULS, GATHERED
TOGETHER FOR ONE OF THEIR
TRADITIONAL FEASTS, CELEBRATE ANOTHER
VICTORY, A VICTORY OVER THE ROMANS
AND OVER THE INEXORABLE PASSAGE
OF TIME ...

THE END

UDERZO - GOSCINNY