

HODDER DARGAUD PRESENTS



Asterix

TEXT: GOSCINNY
DRAWINGS: UDERZO

and the GOLDEN SICKLE



Asterix and the Golden Sickle

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...

CALOFONIX THE BARD IS GIVING THE CHILDREN LESSONS...

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

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

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

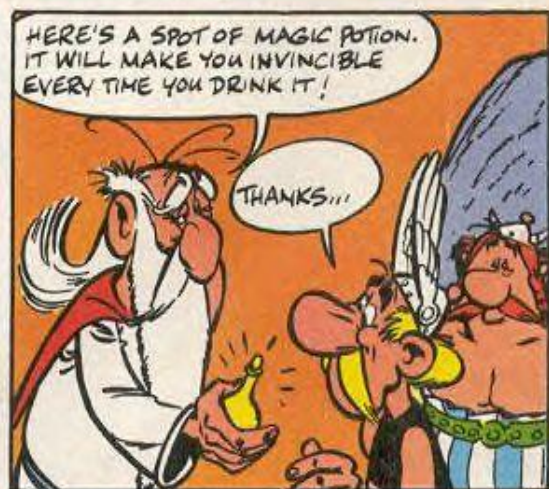
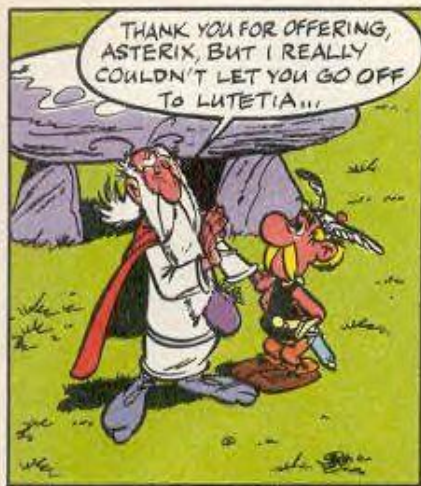
ANOTHER BOAR, OBELIX?

YES, PLEASE!

WHEN SUDDENLY...

OH, BY TOUTATIS!







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...



METALLURGIK MUST BE DOING WELL!



YES, HE IS.



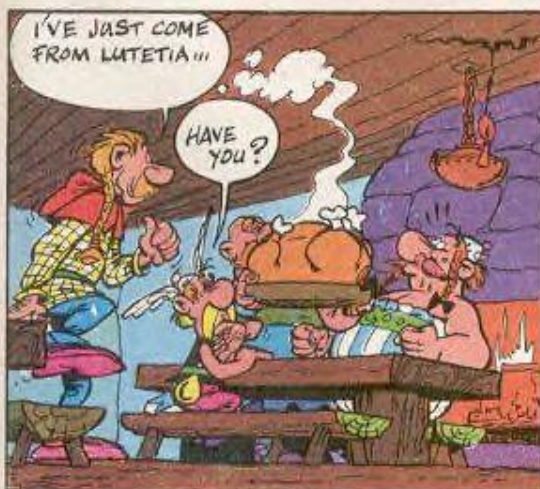
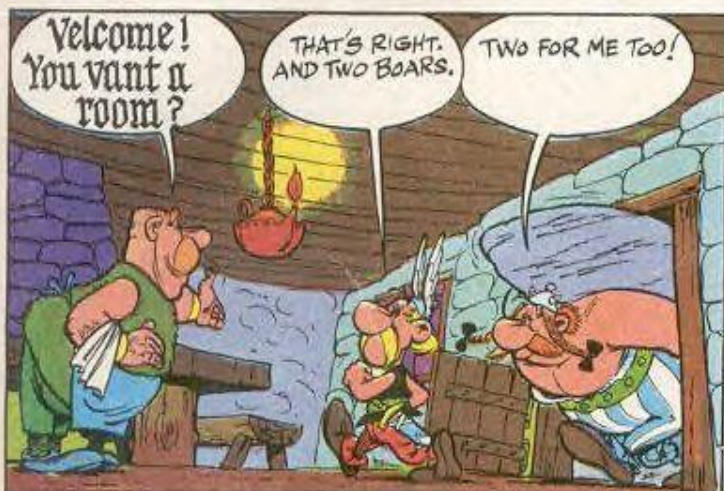
WHAT DOES HE DO WITH ALL THE GOLD COINS HE GETS FOR HIS SICKLES?



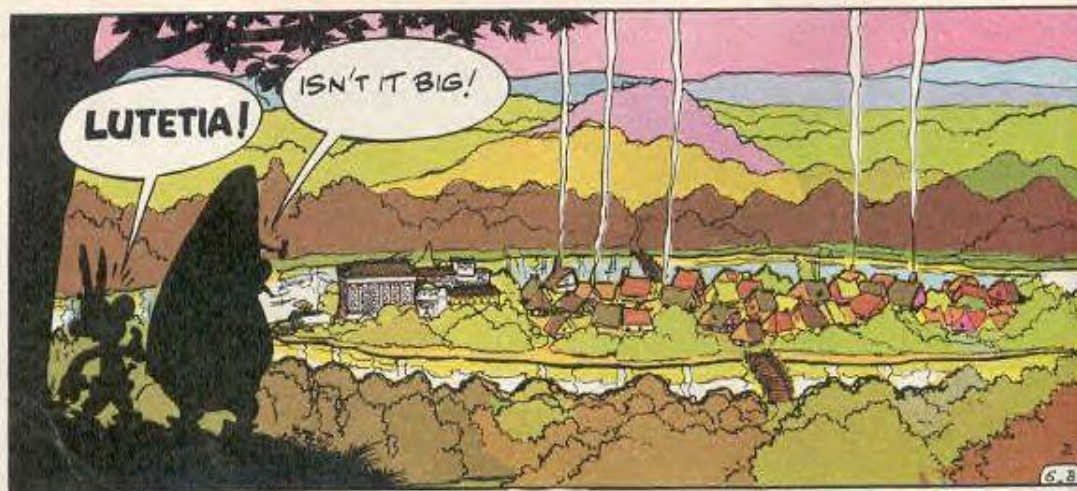
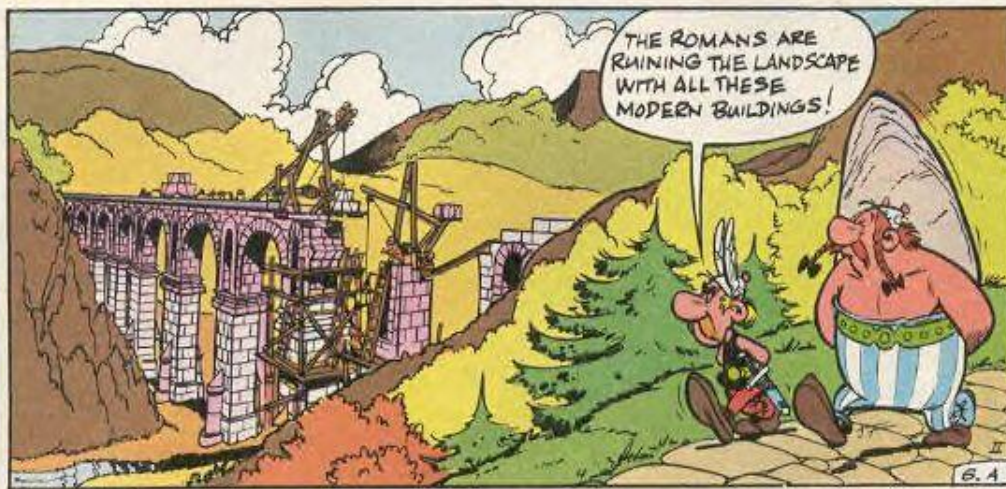
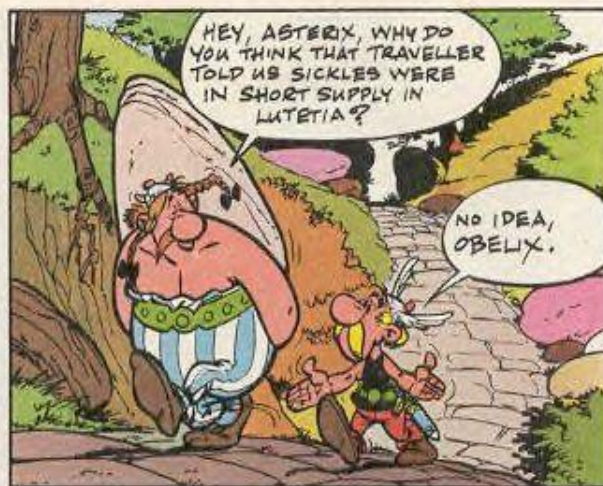
OH, HE MAKES MORE SICKLES.

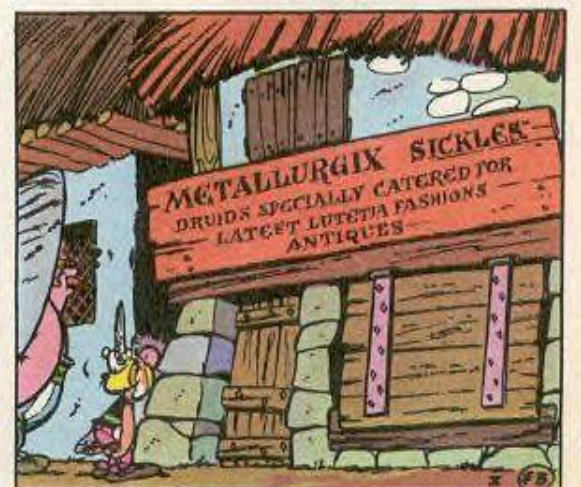
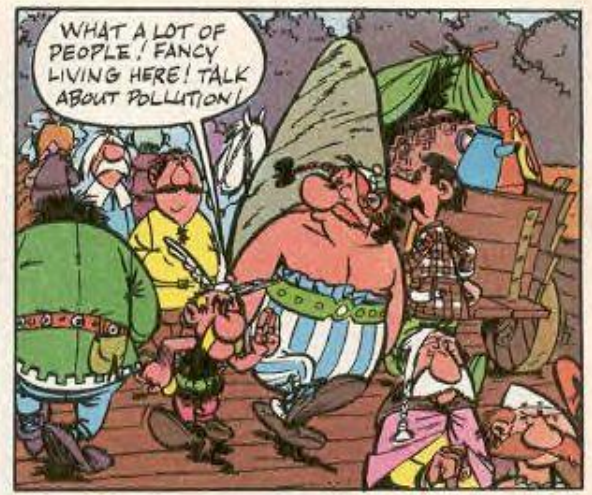
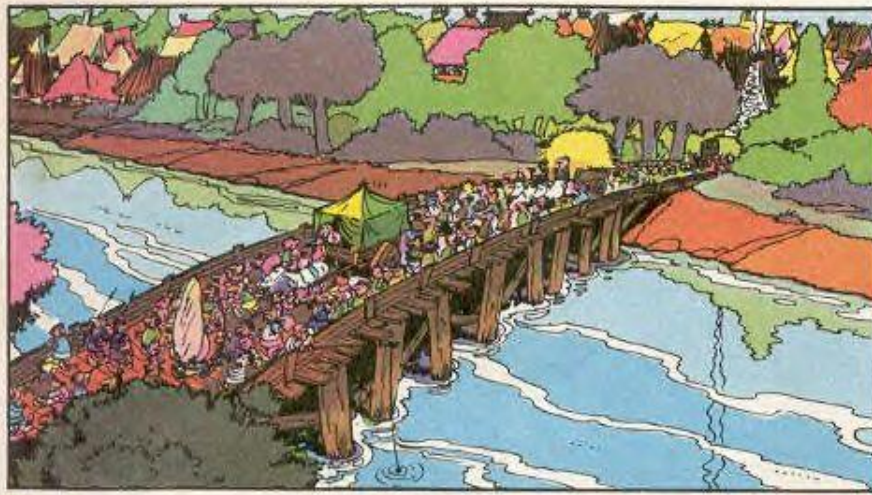


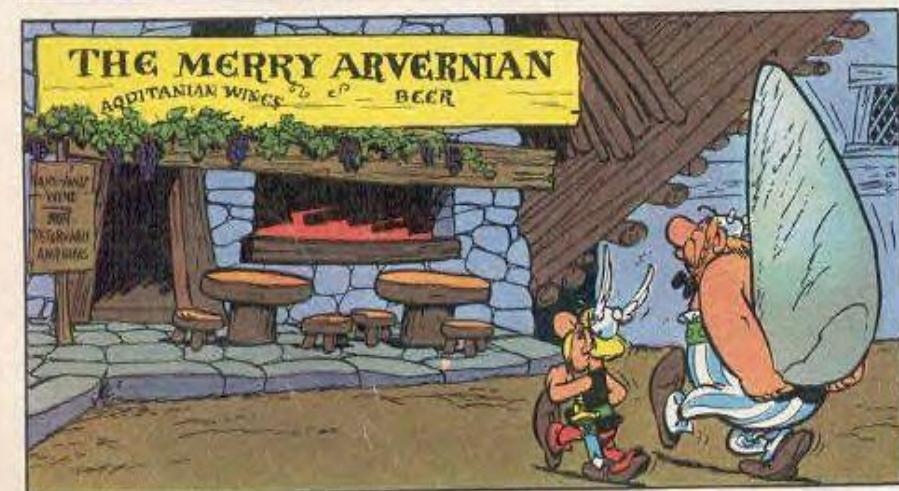
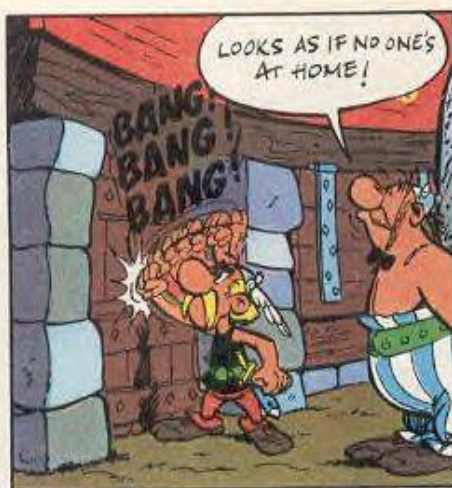
I HOPE WE AREN'T GOING TO MEET TOO MANY MORE BANDITS ON THE WAY. IT DOES CUT DOWN OUR AVERAGE SPEED.

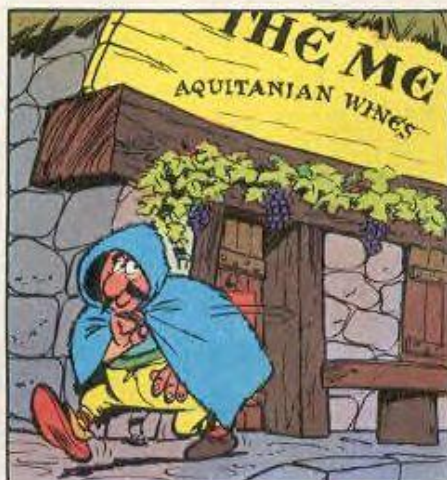
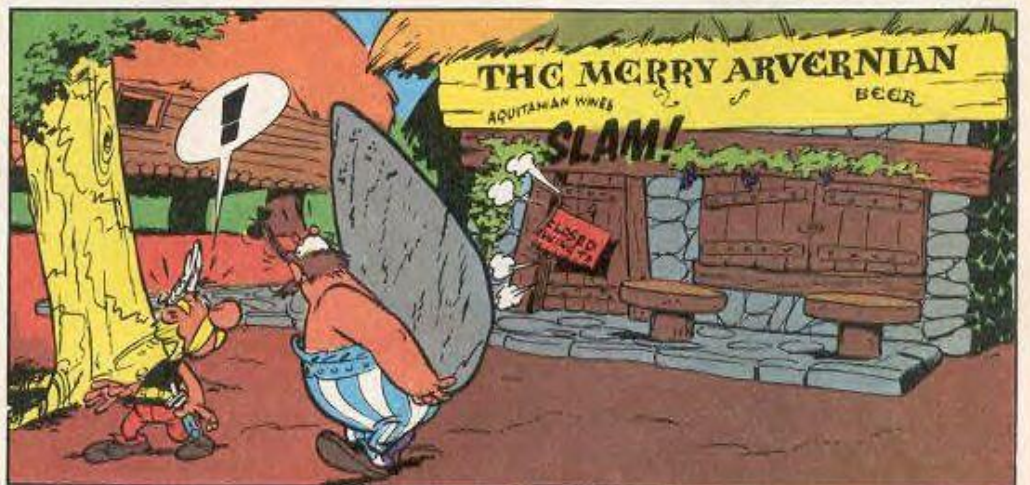
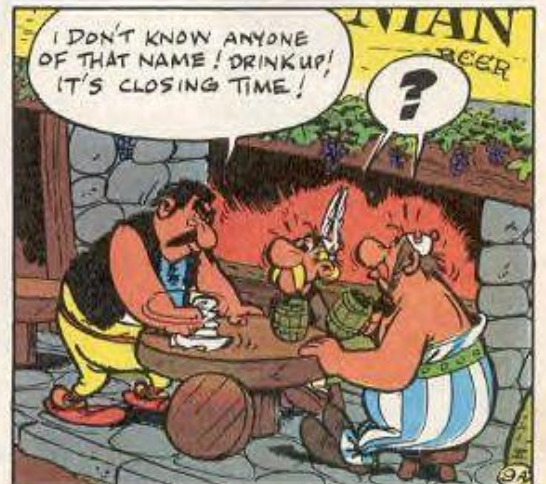
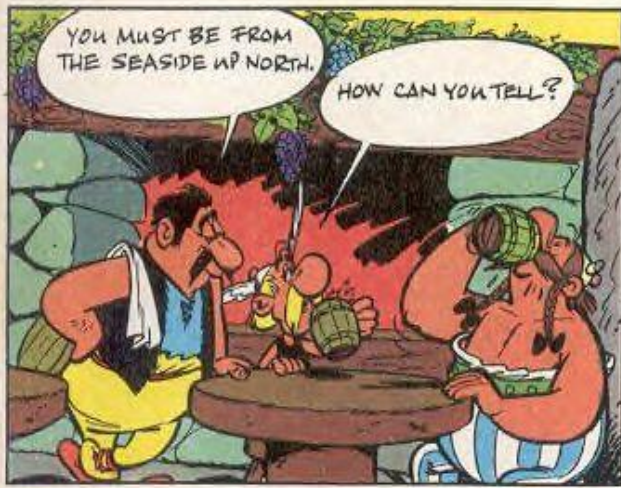


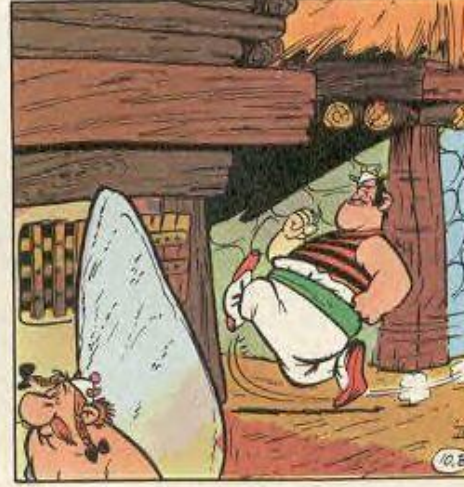
NEXT MORNING!!!



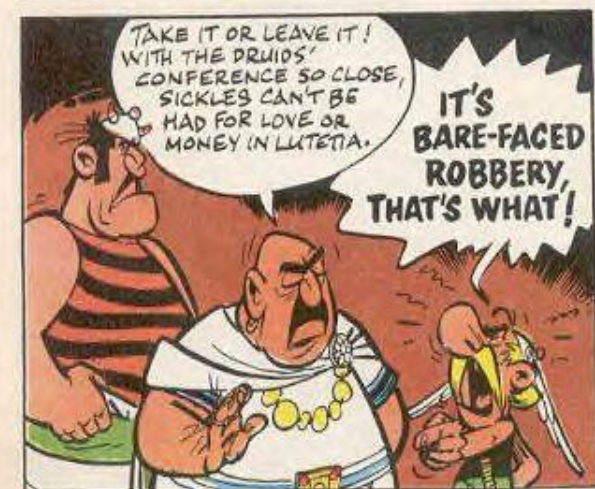


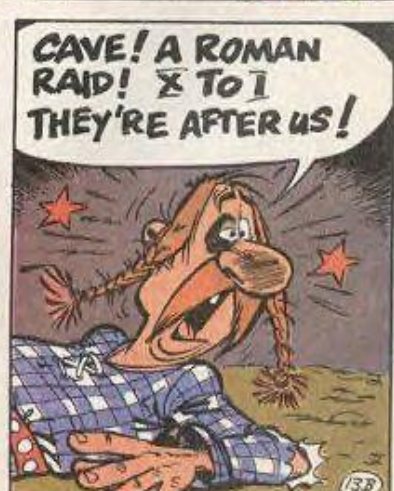
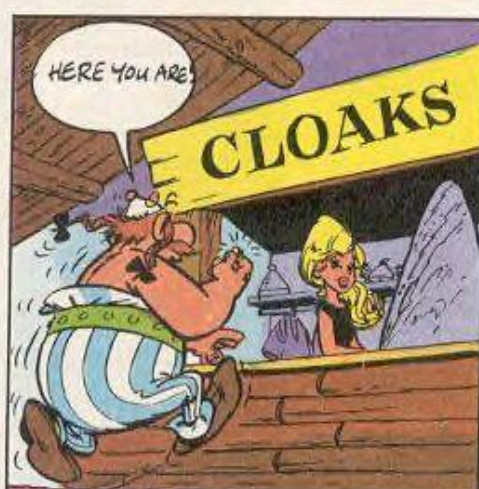
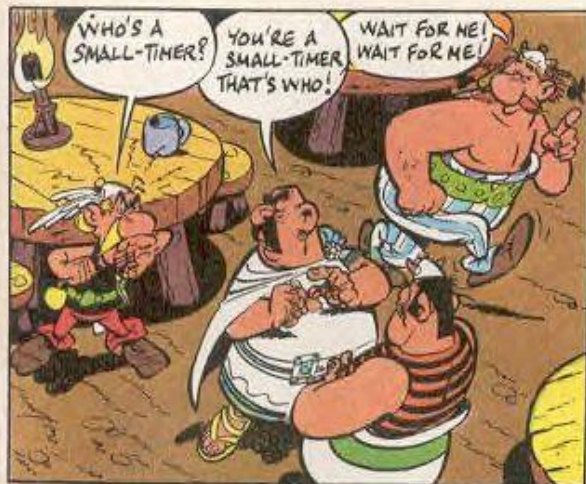


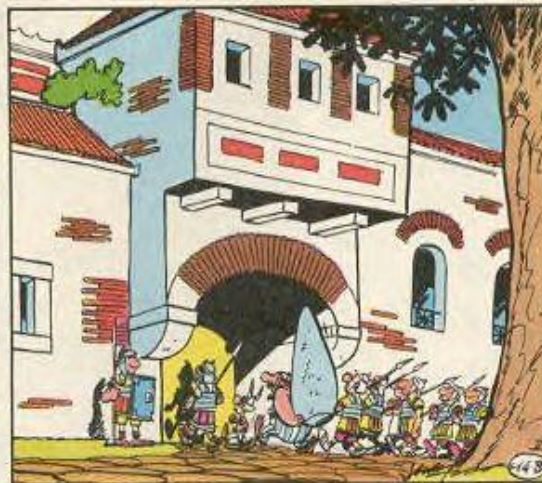


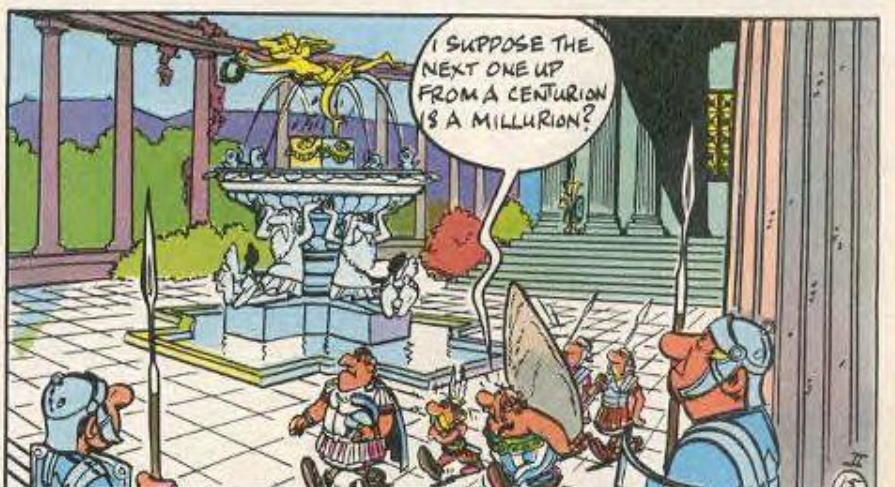
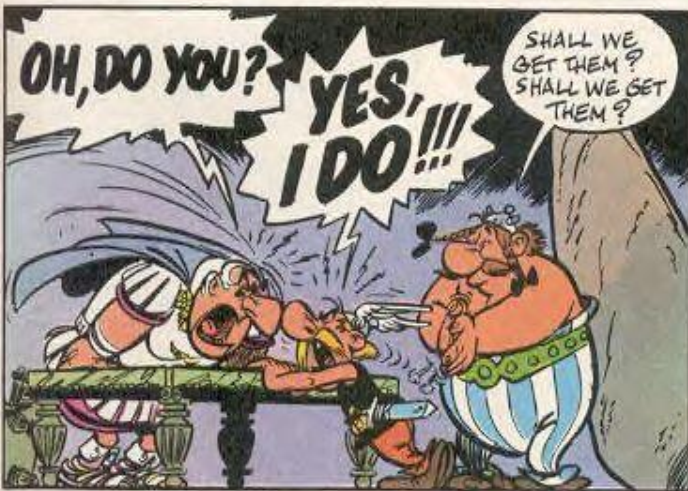
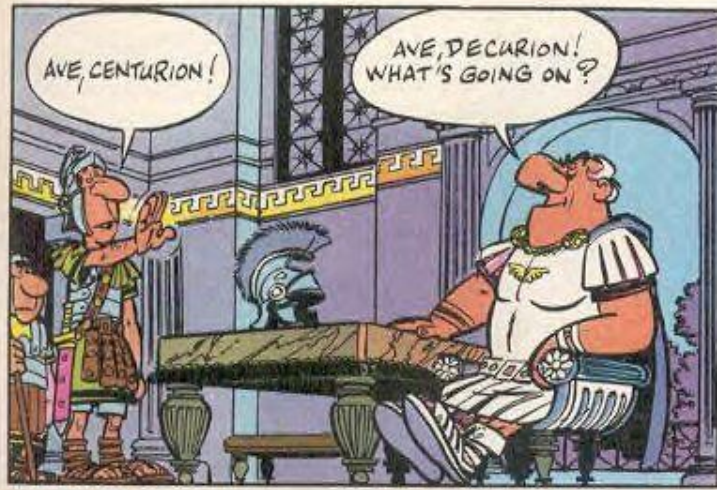


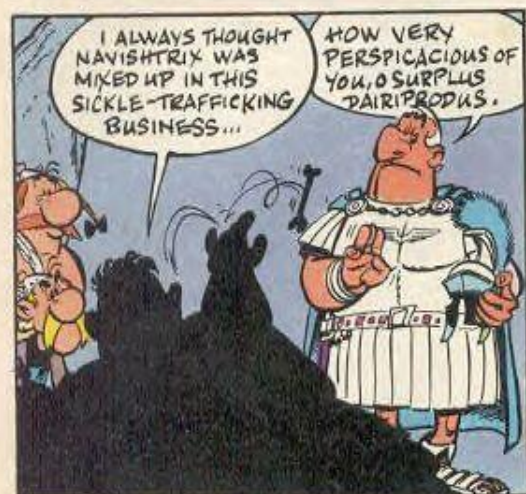


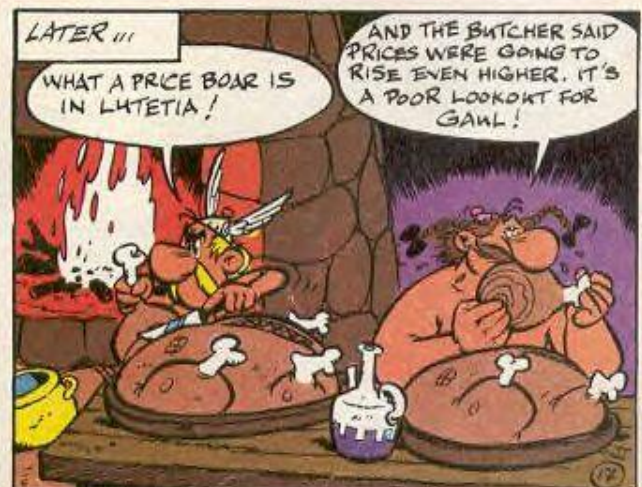
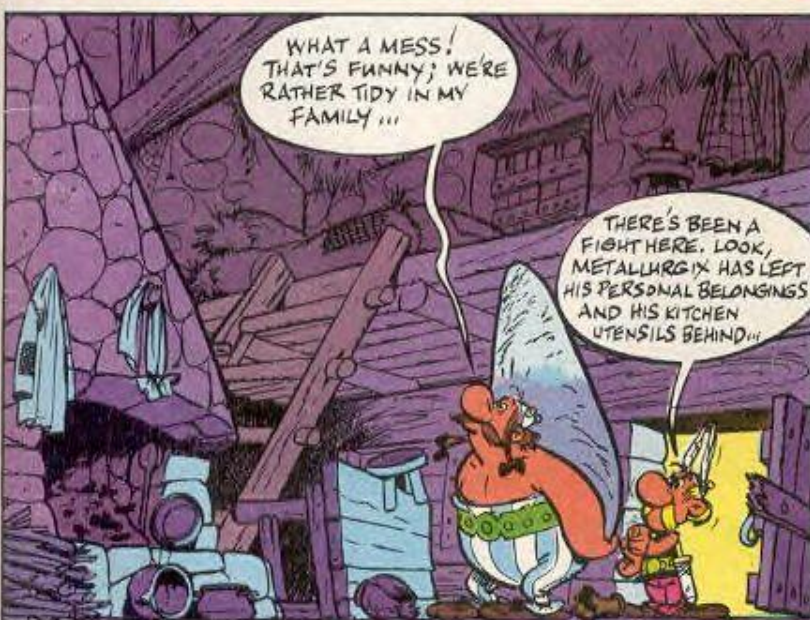




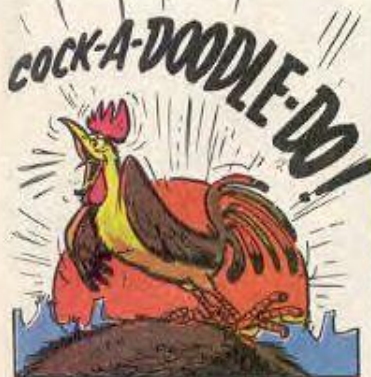








THE SUN, RISING ON LUTETIA,
IS GREETED BY A COCKEREL!!!



GET UP, OBELIX!
IT'S TIME TO START
OUR INVESTIGATIONS!

THAT'S RIGHT.
WE MUST FIND
METALLURGIX.

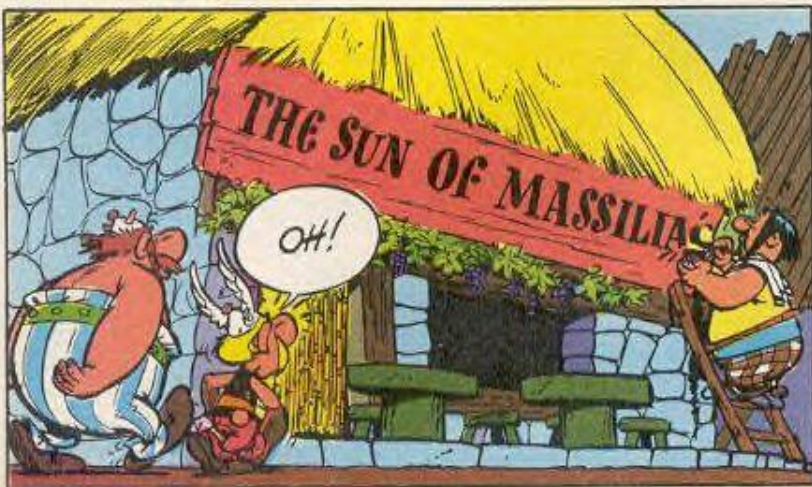


LET'S GO BACK TO
THAT ARVERNIAN IN
THE WINE SHOP. I'M
SURE HE KNOWS
SOMETHING!



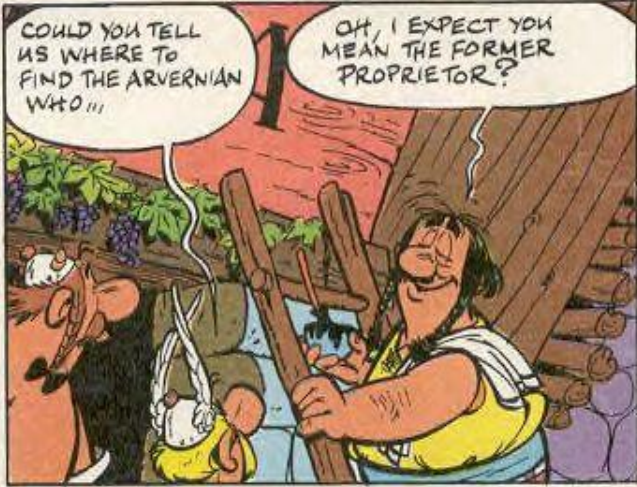
THE SUN OF MASSILIA

OH!

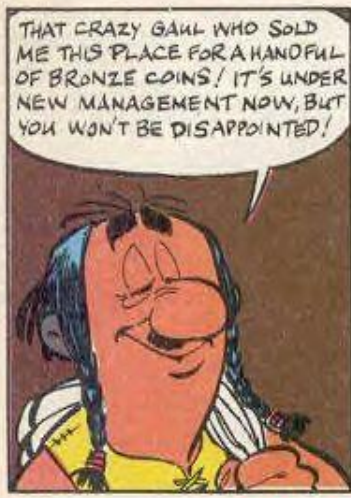


COULD YOU TELL
US WHERE TO
FIND THE ARVERNIAN
WHO...

OH, I EXPECT YOU
MEAN THE FORMER
PROPRIETOR?

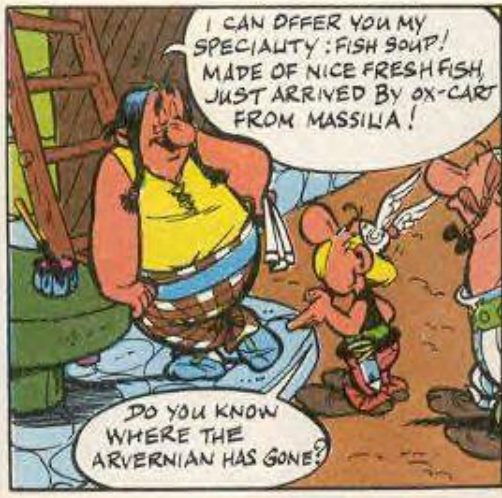


THAT CRAZY GAUL WHO SOLD
ME THIS PLACE FOR A HANDFUL
OF BRONZE COINS! IT'S UNDER
NEW MANAGEMENT NOW, BUT
YOU WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED!



I CAN OFFER YOU MY
SPECIALTY: FISH SOUP!
MADE OF NICE FRESH FISH,
JUST ARRIVED BY OX-CART
FROM MASSILIA!

DO YOU KNOW
WHERE THE
ARVERNIAN HAS GONE?



OH! HE STARTED
FOR GERGOVIA THIS
MORNING, TRAVELLING
BY OX-CART, THE SAME
AS THE FISH!



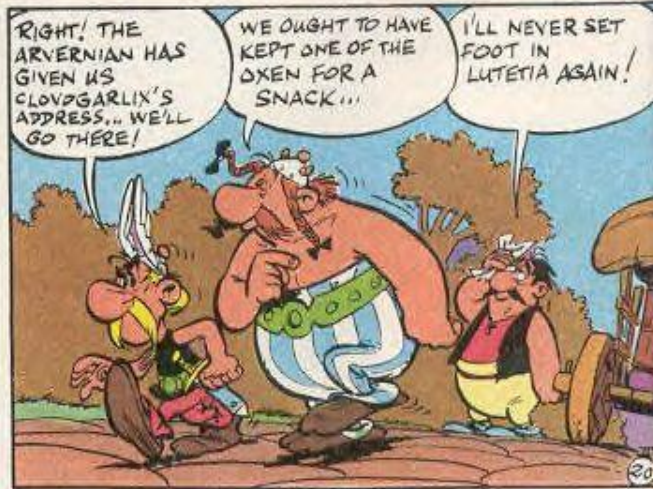
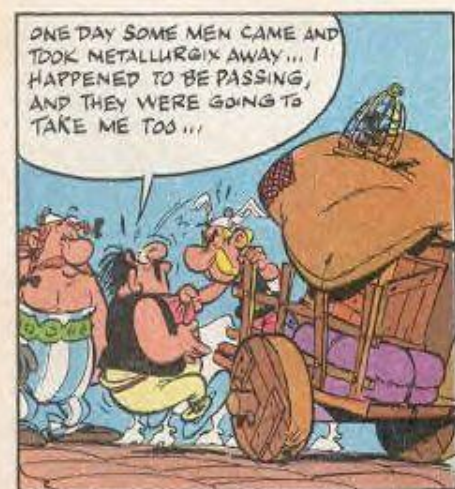
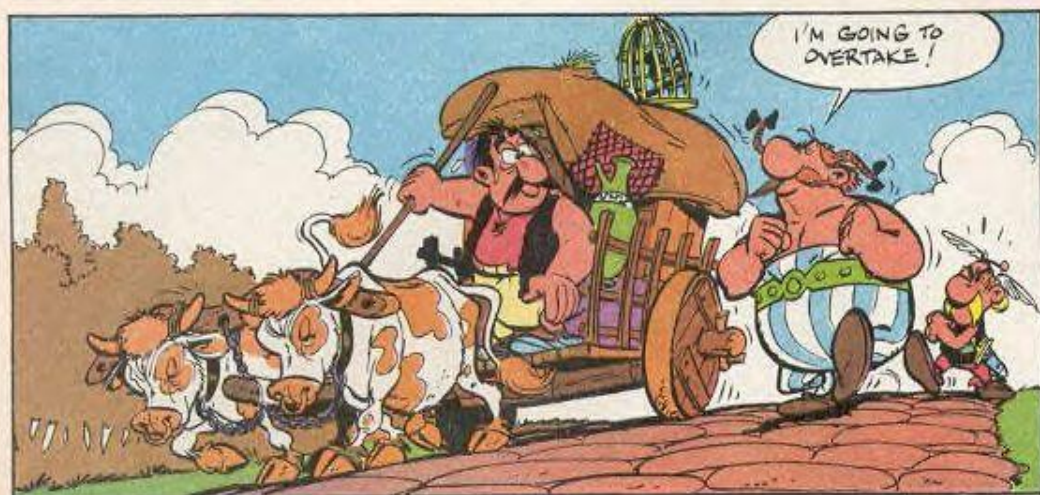
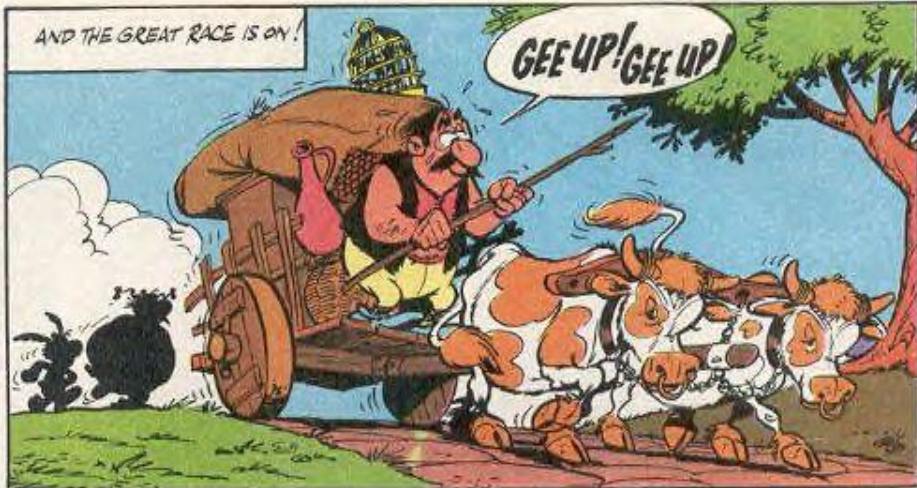
WHAT A SHAME! IF YOU'D
COME A LITTLE SOONER YOU'D
HAVE FOUND HIM STILL HERE!

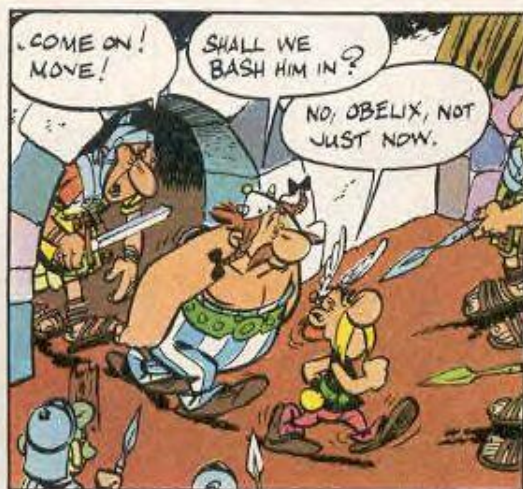
THANKS!



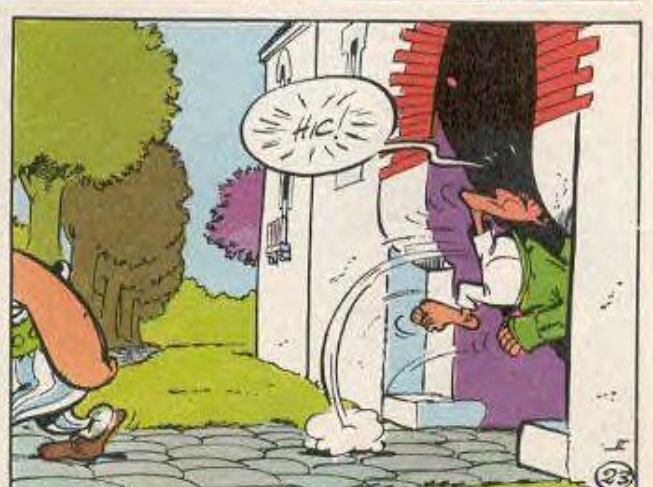
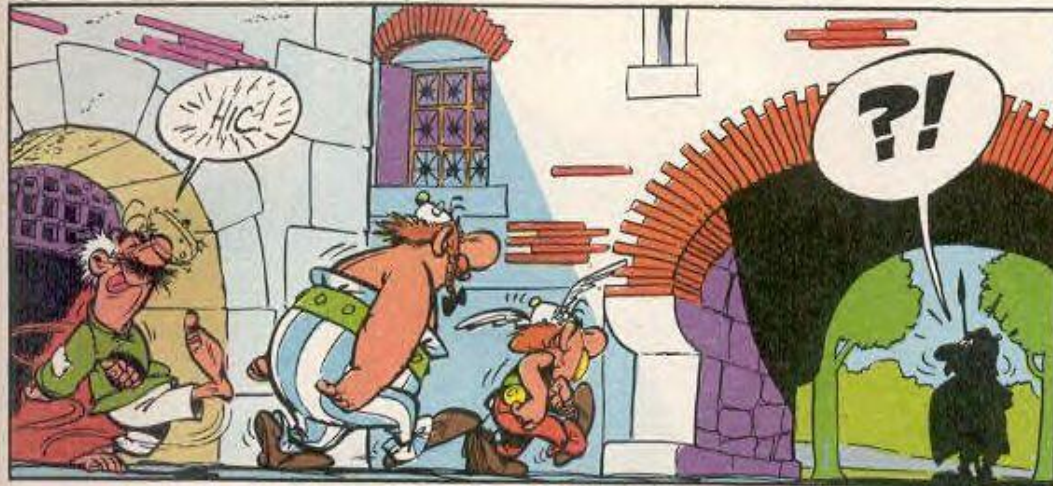
ALL THESE LUTETIANS
ARE CRAZY,
BY BELISAMA!

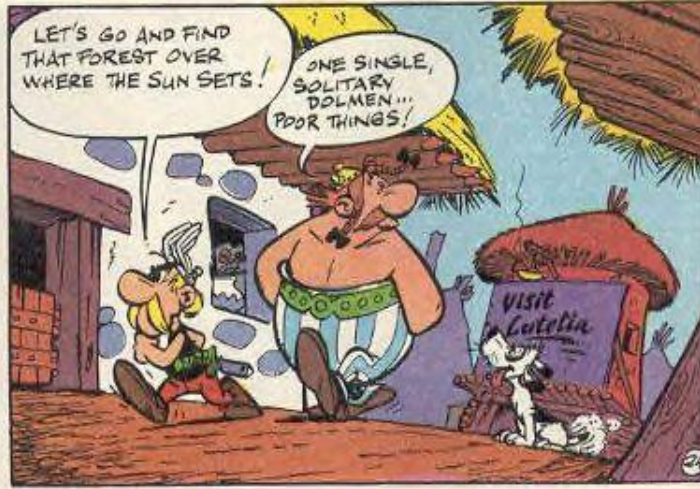
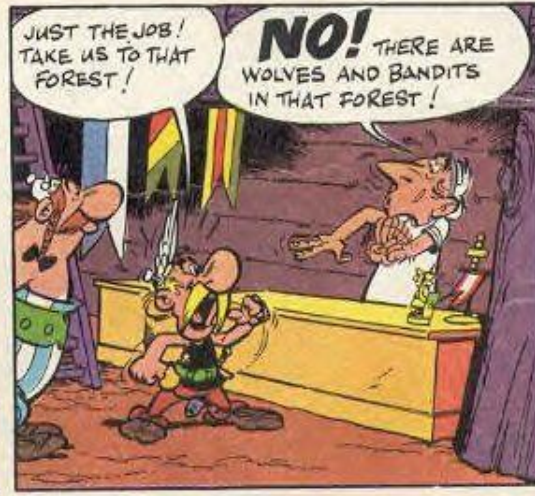
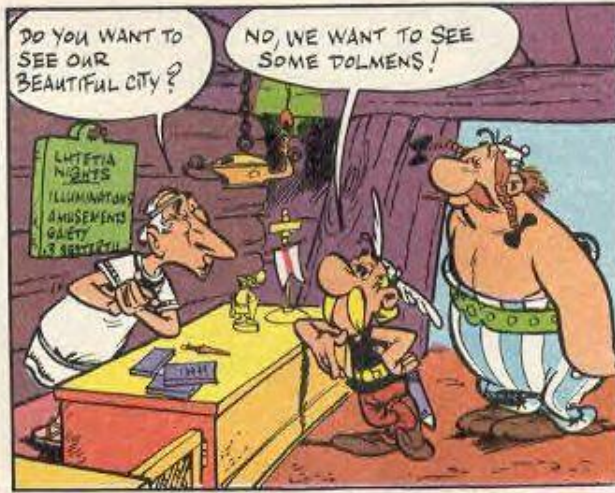
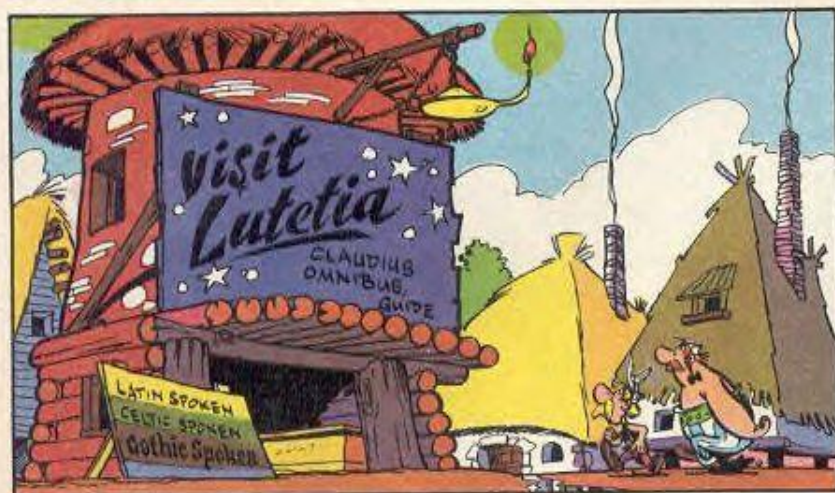


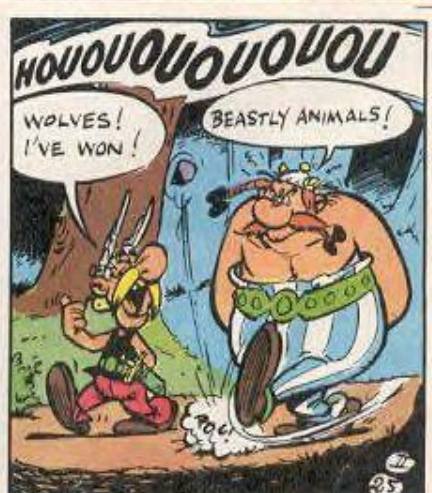
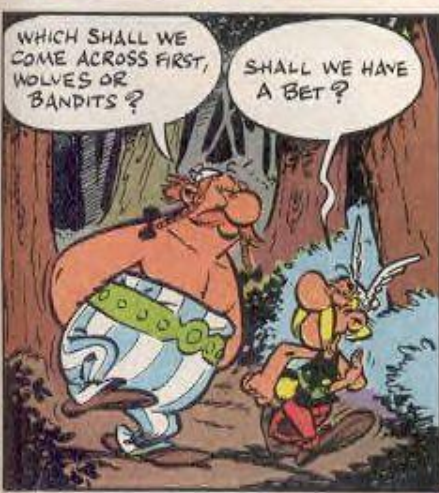
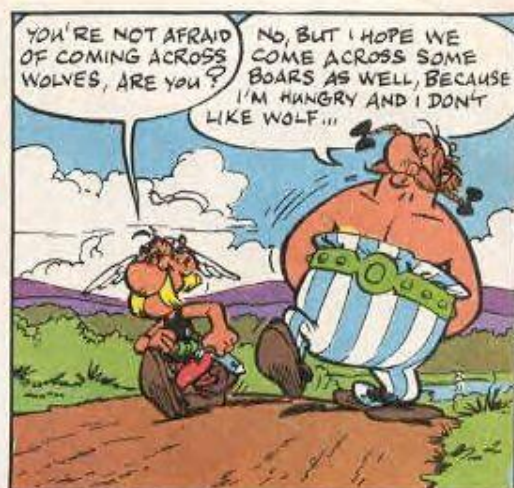


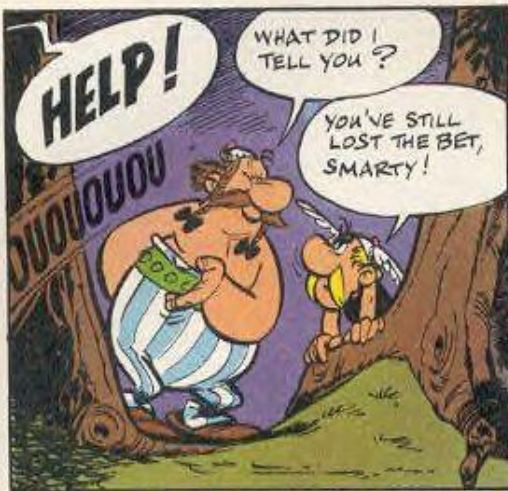




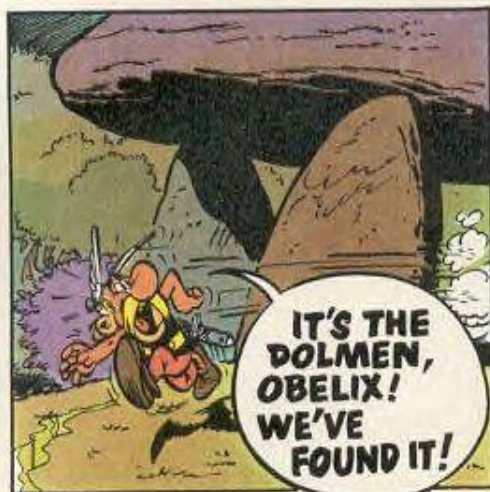
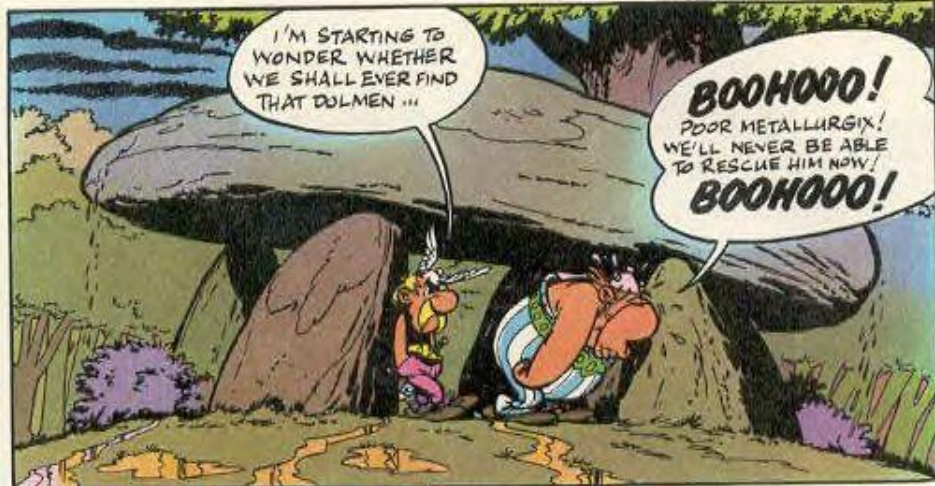




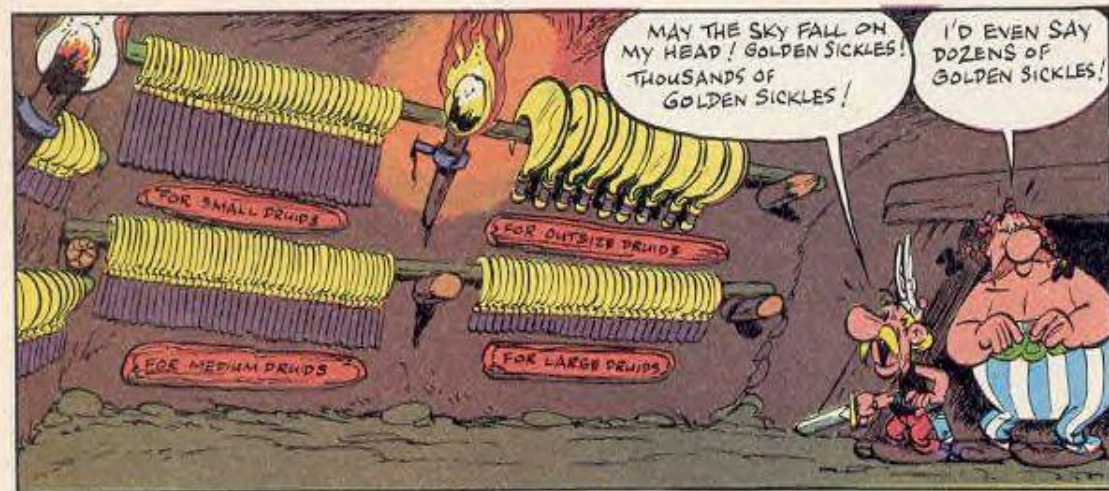
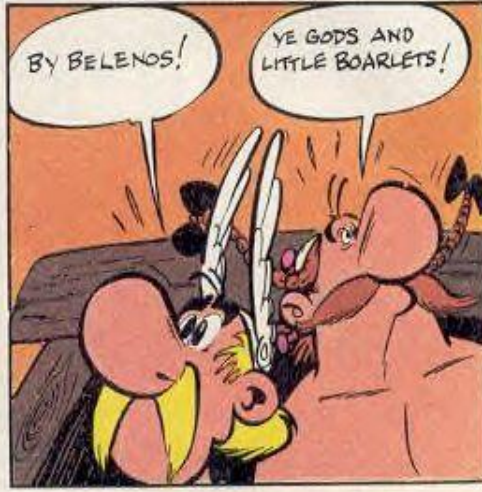












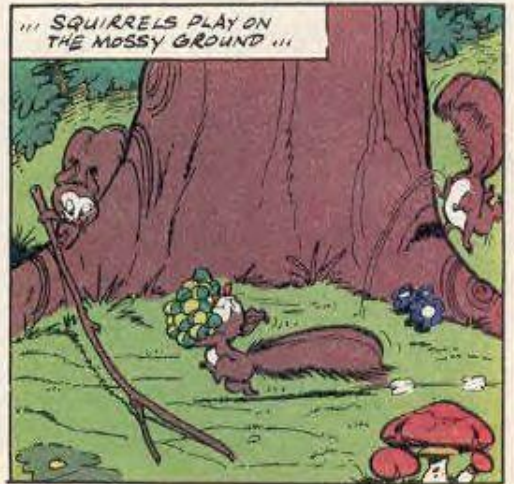
WARM RAYS OF BRILLIANT
SUNSHINE LIGHT UP A
CLOUDLESS SKY...



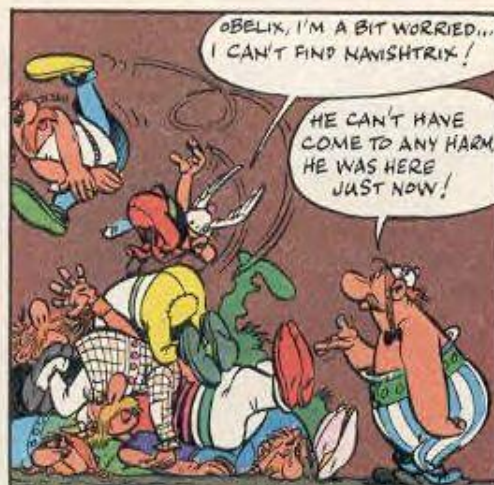
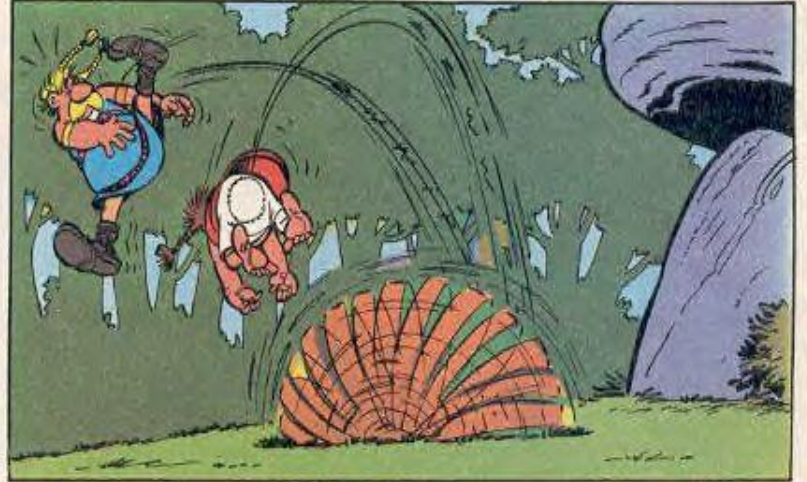
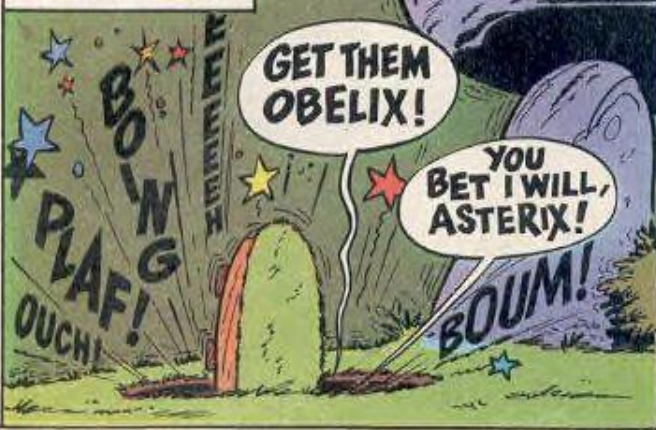
... LITTLE BIRDS WARBLE ON
THE LEAFY BRANCHES ...

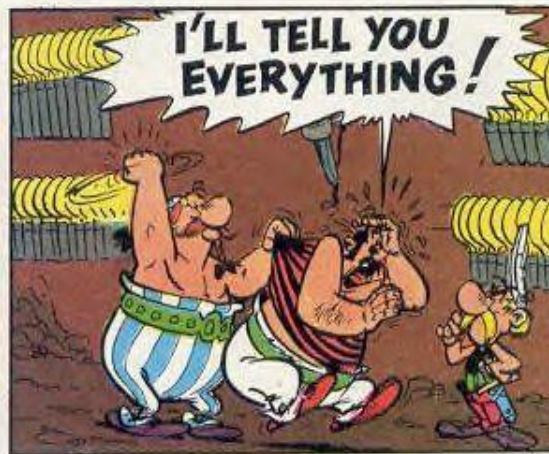
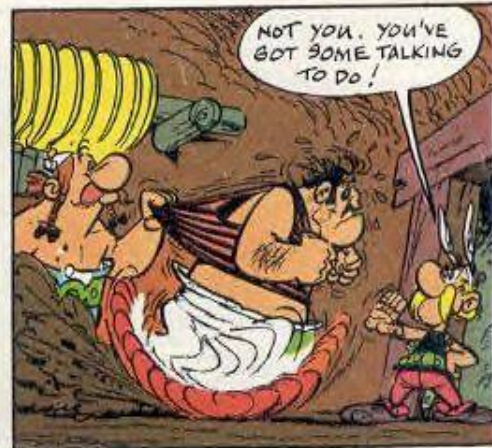


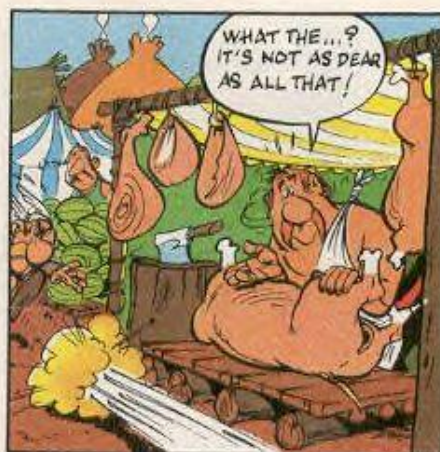
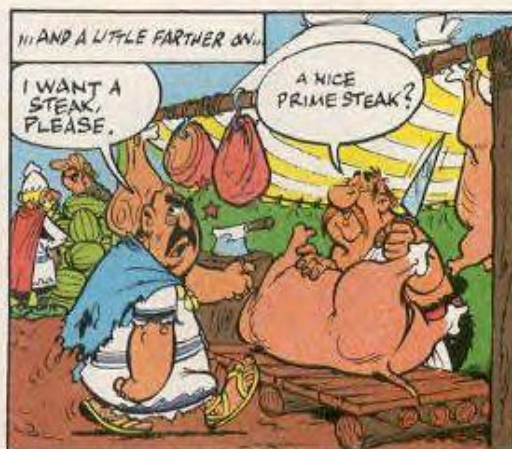
... SQUIRRELS PLAY ON
THE MOSSY GROUND ...

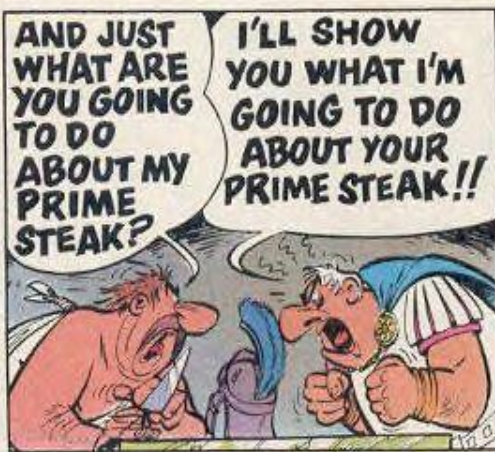
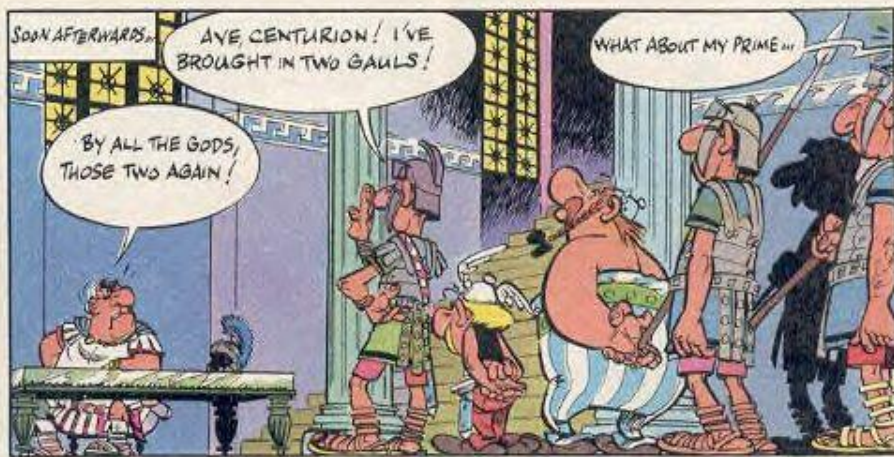
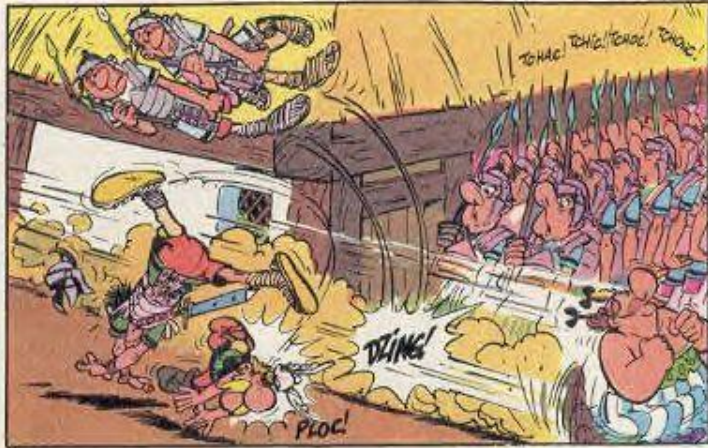


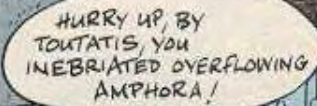
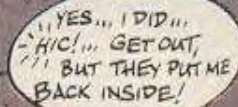
... WHILE UNDERNEATH
THE MOSSY GROUND...

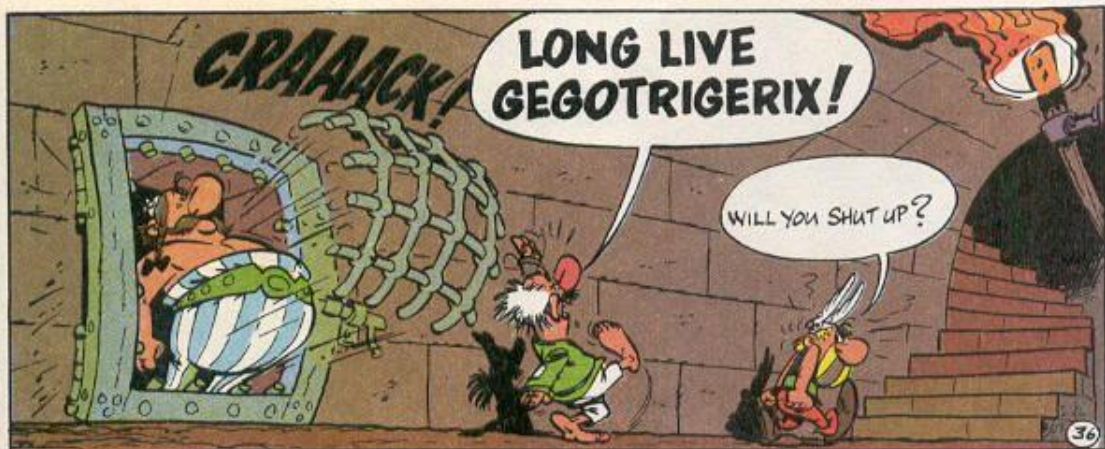






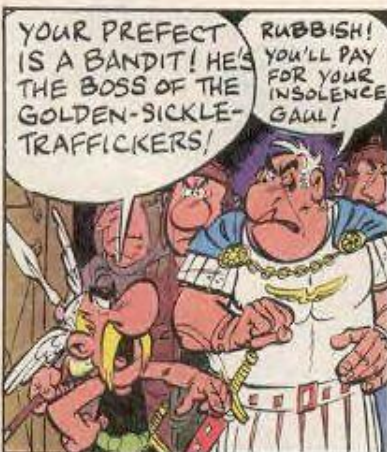
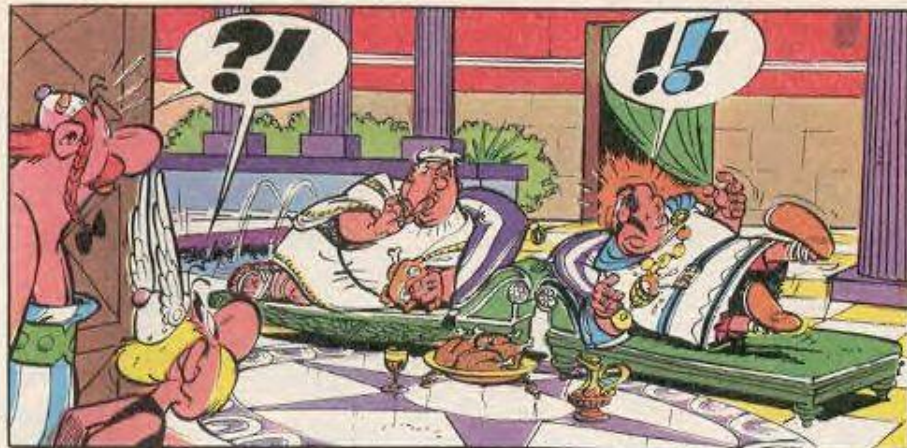


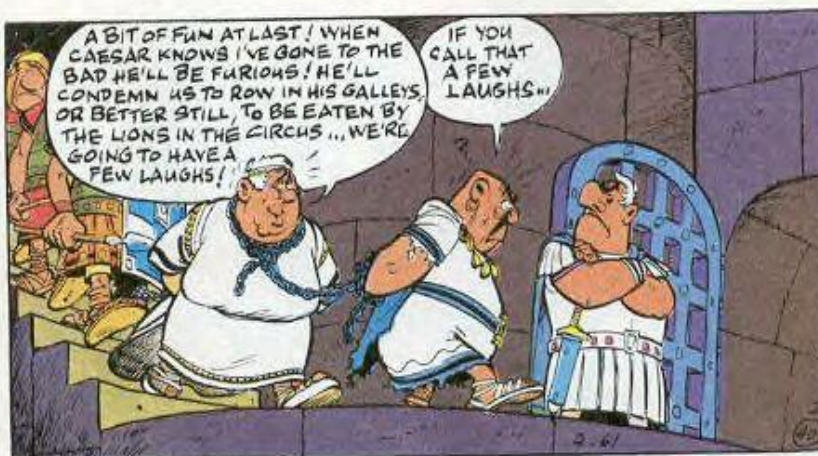
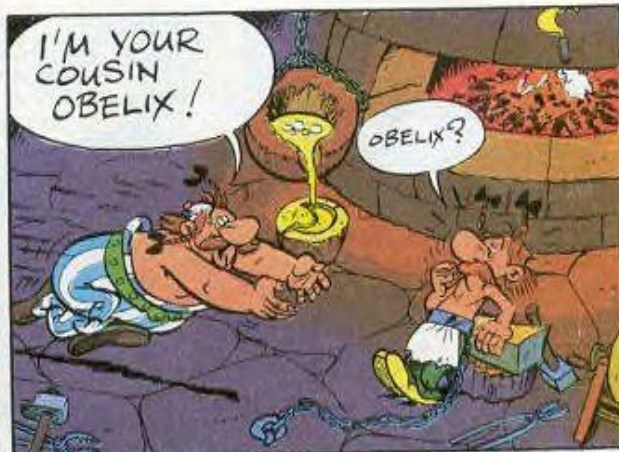














WITH THEIR GOLDEN SICKLE AT LAST,
OUR TWO FRIENDS LEAVE LUTETIA
FOR AN UNEVENTFUL JOURNEY...



APART FROM A FEW
RASH BANDITS...



...A FEW FOOLHARDY BARBARIANS...



...AND SEVERAL
CARELESS WILD BOAR...



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



COME ON, EVERYONE!
ASTERIX AND OBELIX
ARE BACK!

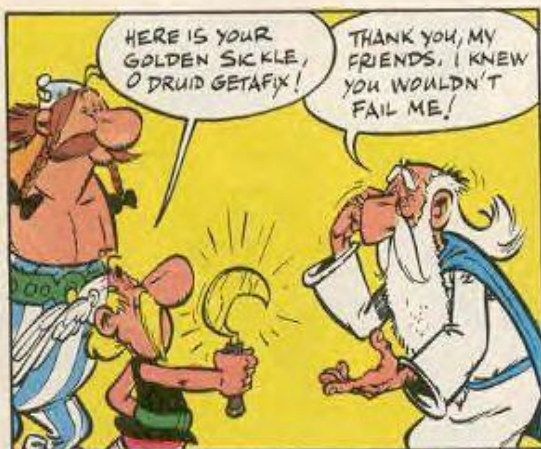


WELCOME BACK,
BRAVE
WARRIORS!



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 CACOFONIX
HASN'T TURNED UP TO SING
US ONE OF HIS ODES!

