

BOOK 7

GOSCINNY AND UDERZO

Asterix

the Legionary



TOOWOOMBA CITY LIBRARY

7
GOS

ASTERIX THE LEGIONARY

TEXT BY GOSCINNY

DRAWINGS BY UDERZO

TRANSLATED BY ANTHEA BELL AND DEREK HOCKRIDGE



HODDER AND STOUGHTON

LONDON SYDNEY AUCKLAND



GAULISH VILLAGE

BELGICA

COMPENDIUM

AQUARIUM

LAUDANUM

TOTORUM

LUTETIA

ARMORICA

GAUL
(ROMAN CONQUEST)
50 B.C.

CELTICA

PROVINCIA

AQUITANIA

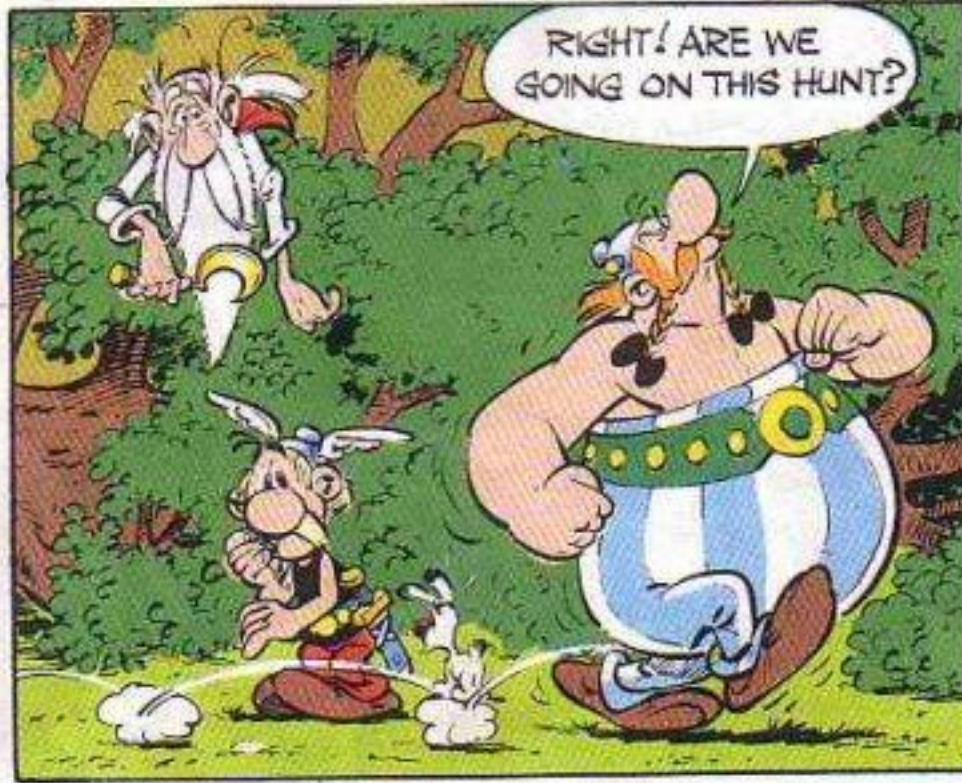
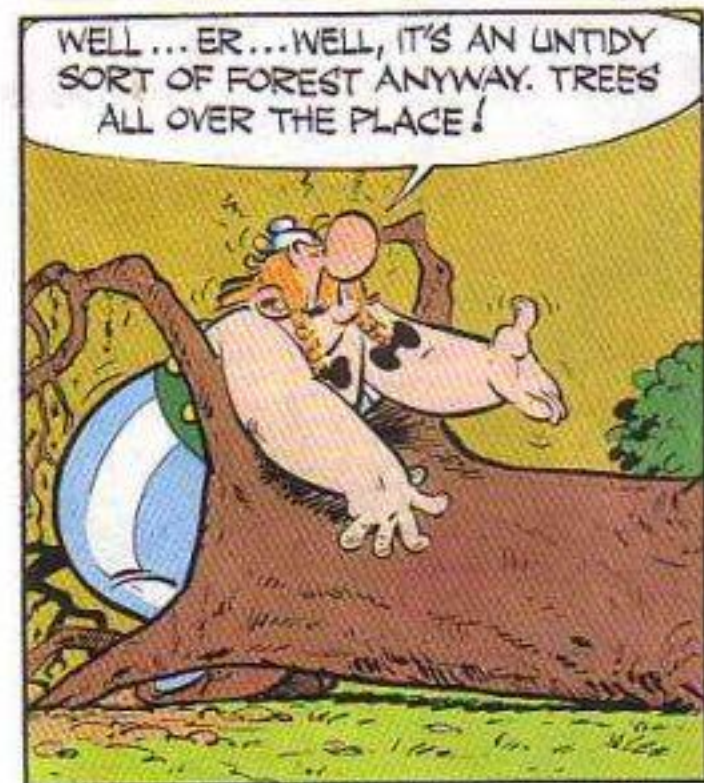
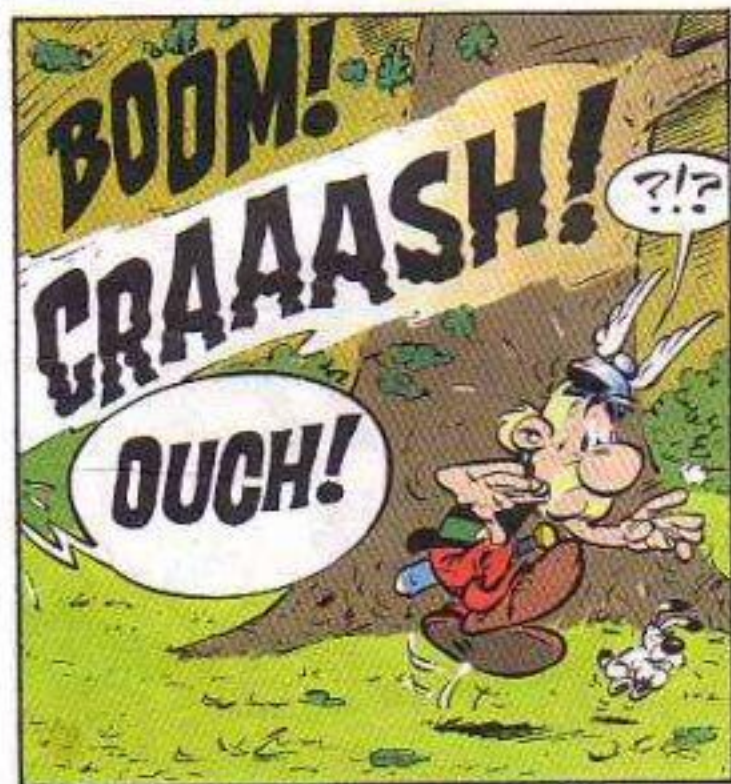
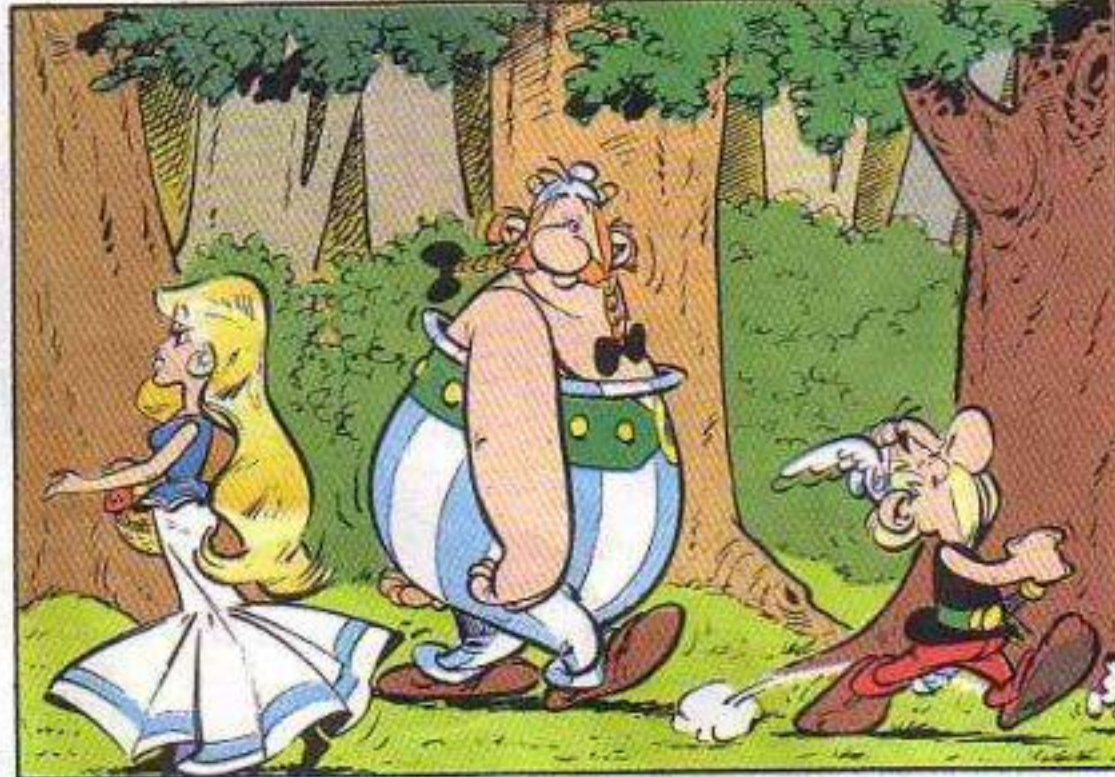
The year is 50 BC. Gaul is entirely occupied by the Romans. Well, not entirely... One small village of indomitable Gauls still holds out against the invaders. And life is not easy for the Roman legionaries who garrison the fortified camps of Totorum, Aquarium, Laudanum and Compendium...

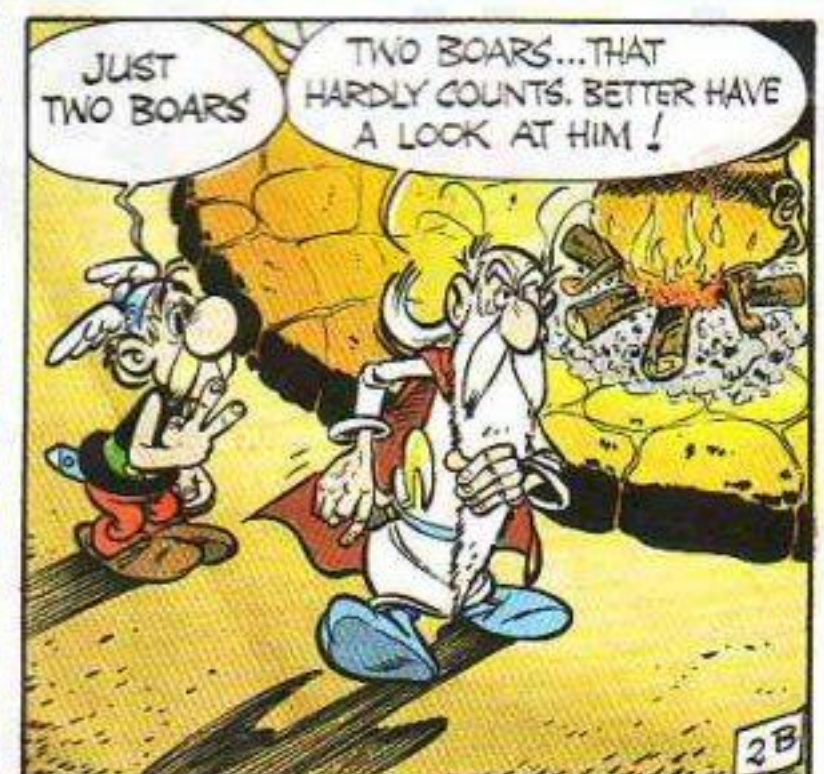
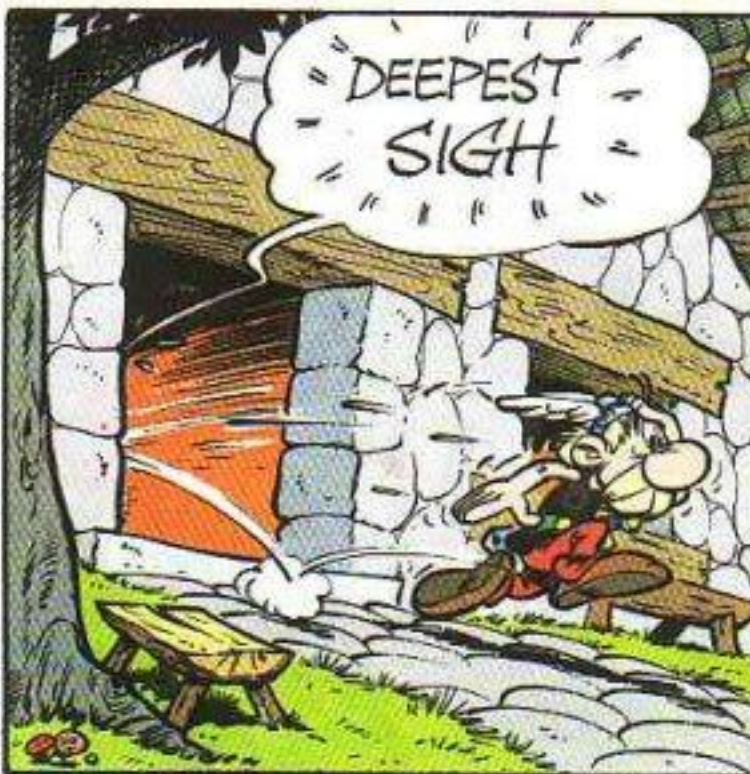
THE SUN IS SHINING, AND ALL IS QUIET IN THE LITTLE GAULISH VILLAGE WE KNOW SO WELL...

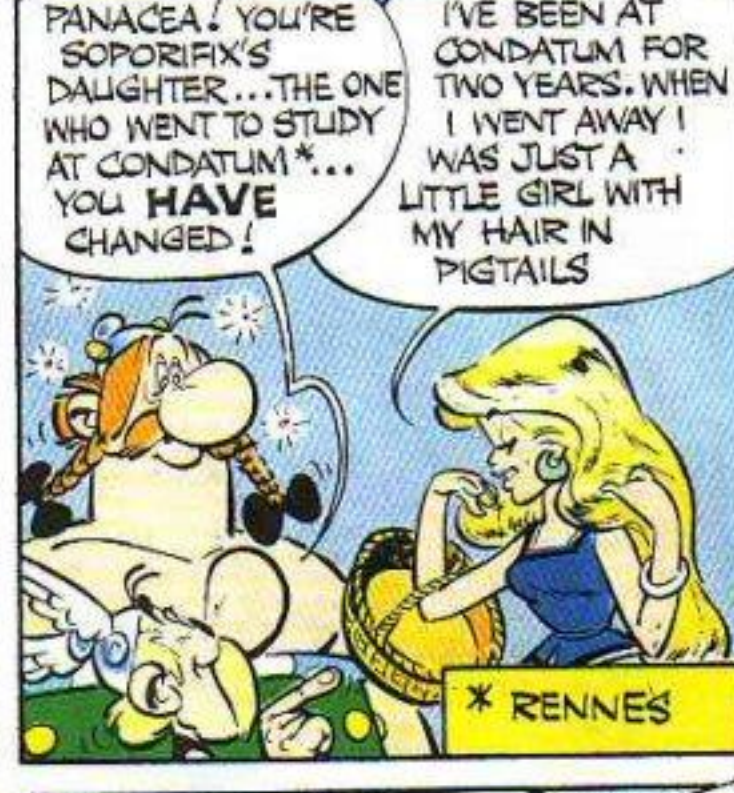
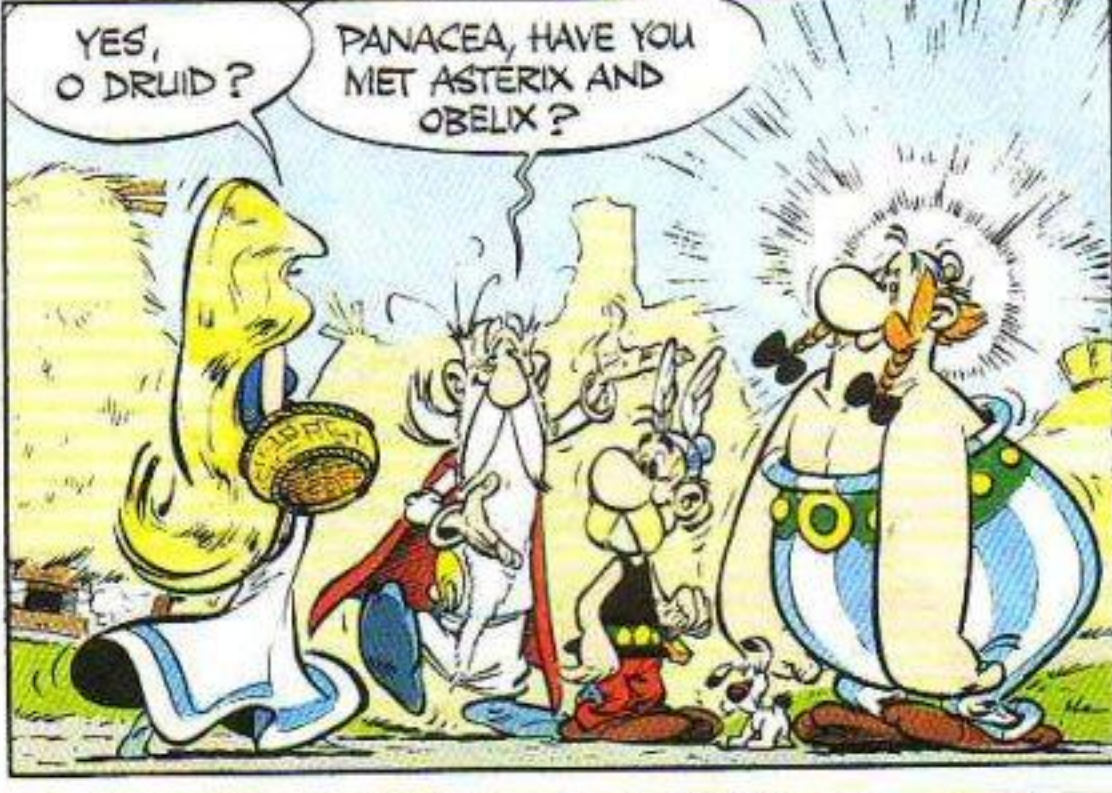
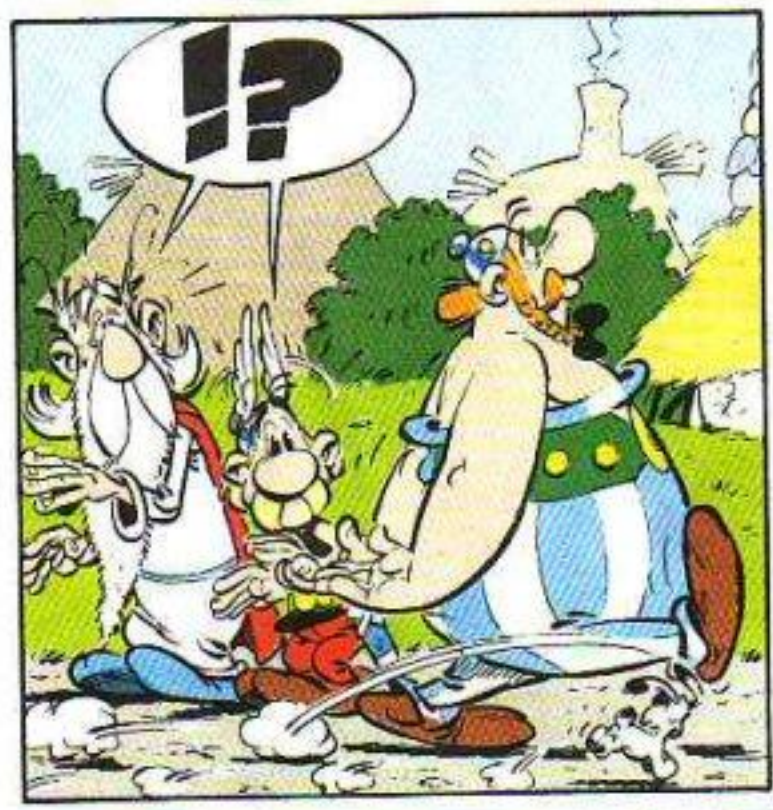
NICE DAY, OBELIX! LET'S MAKE THE MOST OF IT! HOW ABOUT A BOAR HUNT?

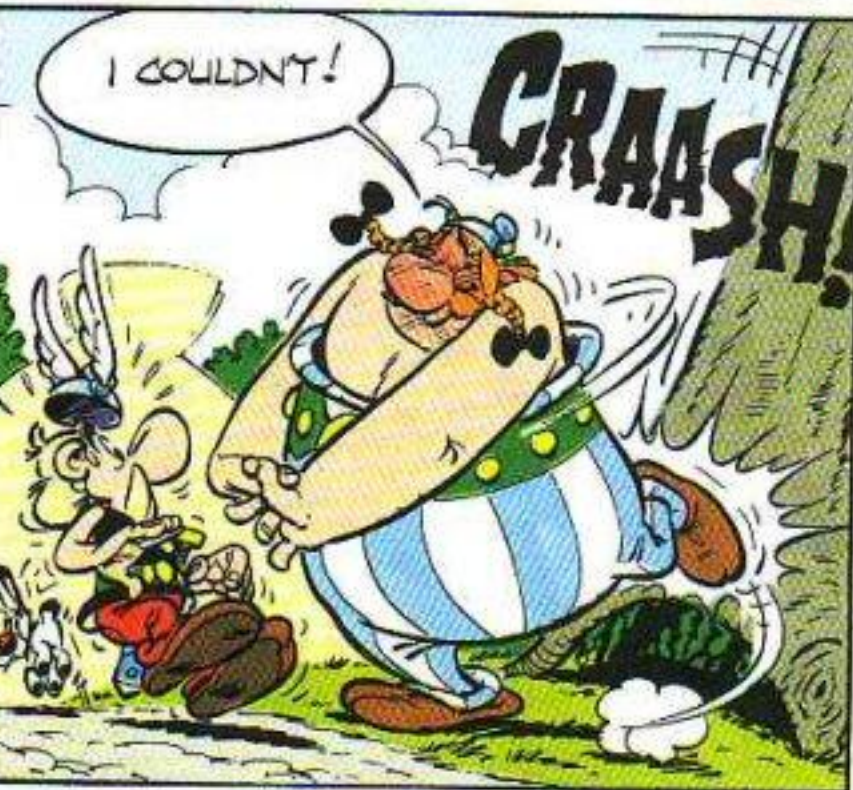
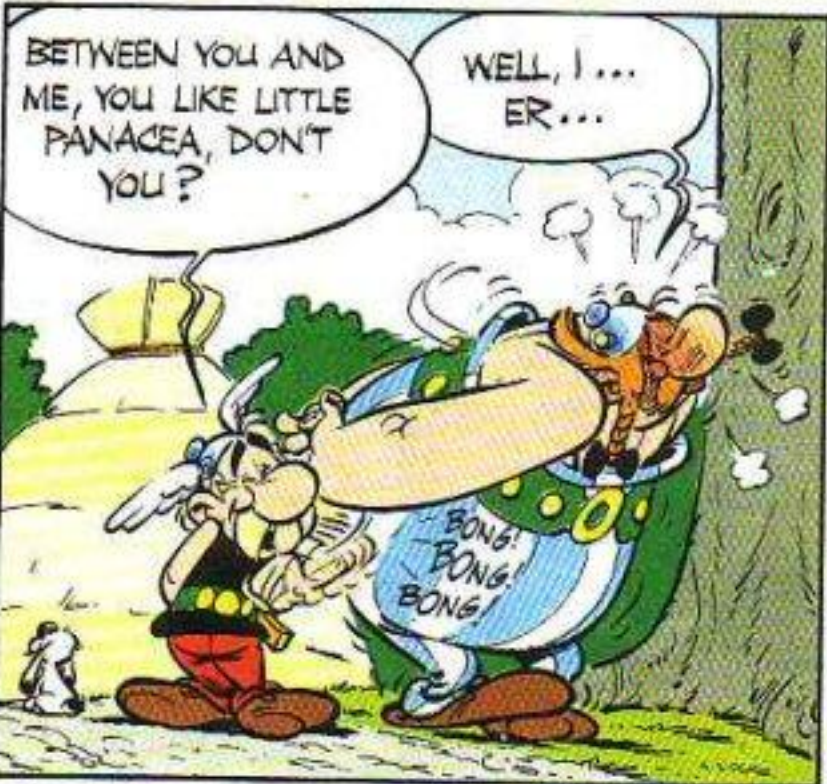
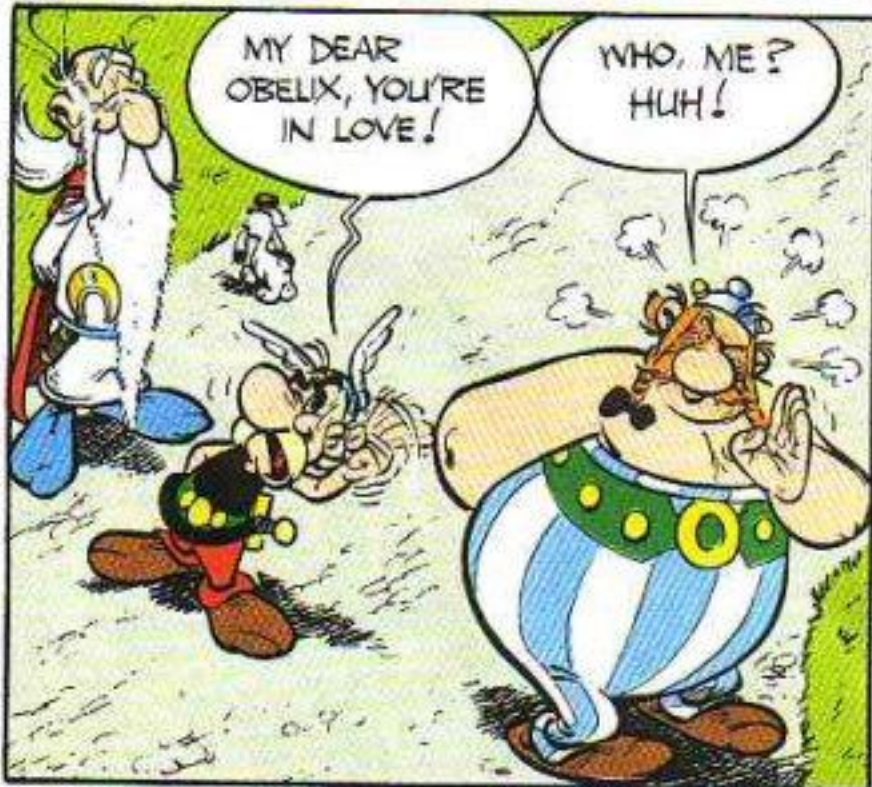
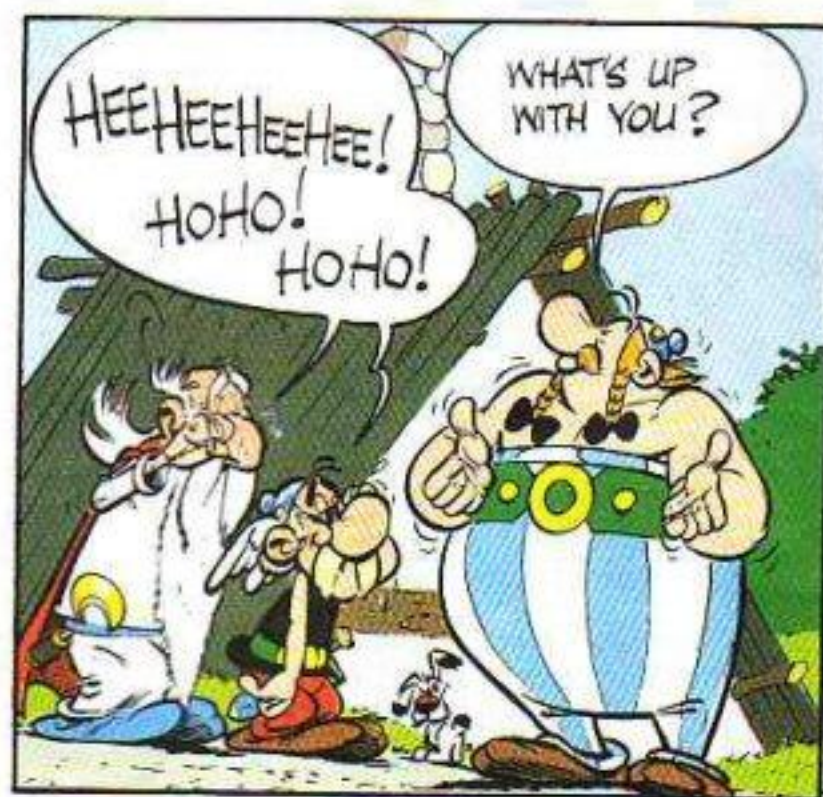
GOOD IDEA ASTERIX!

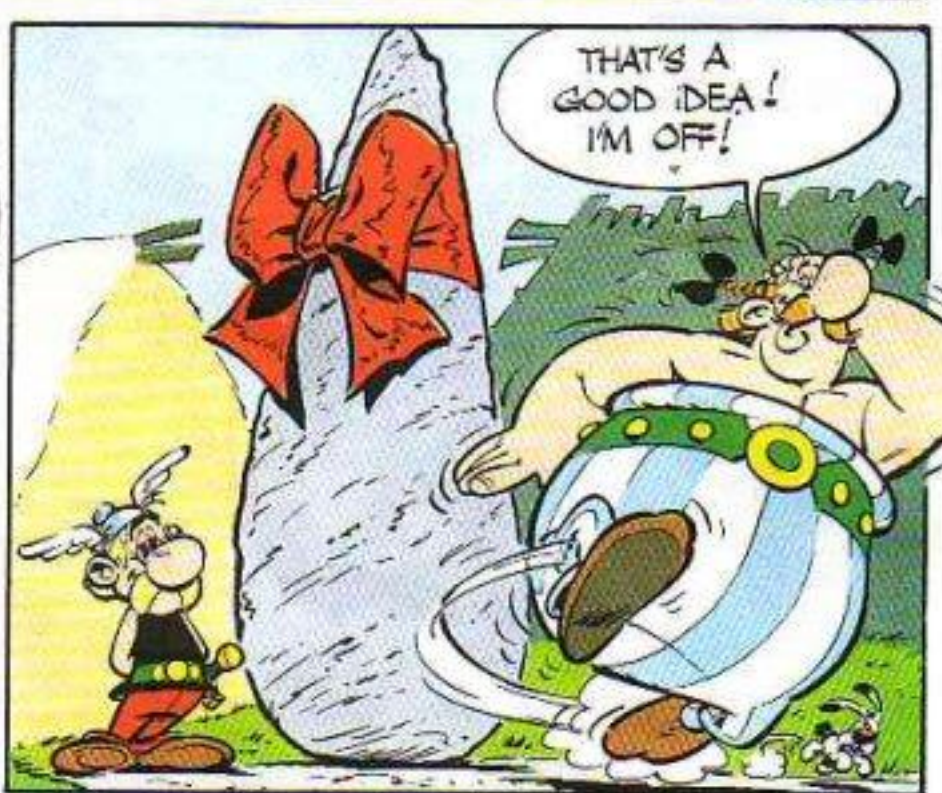
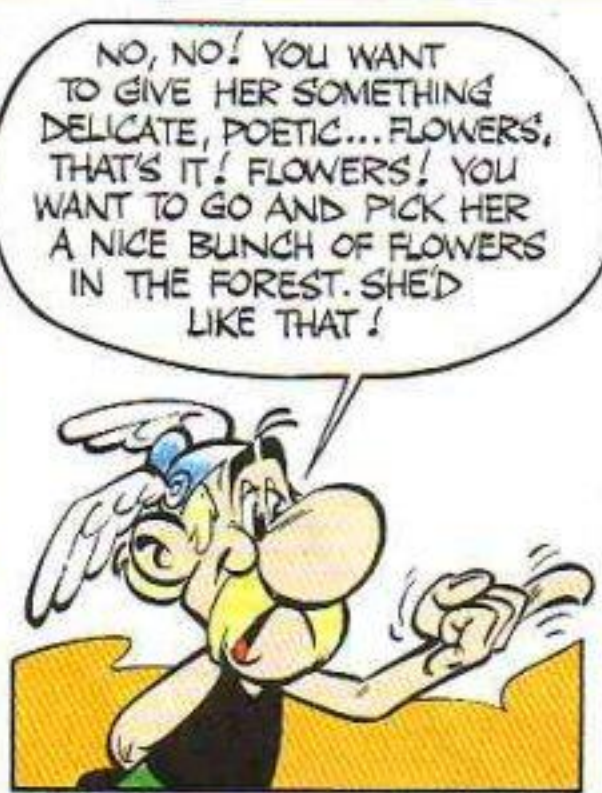
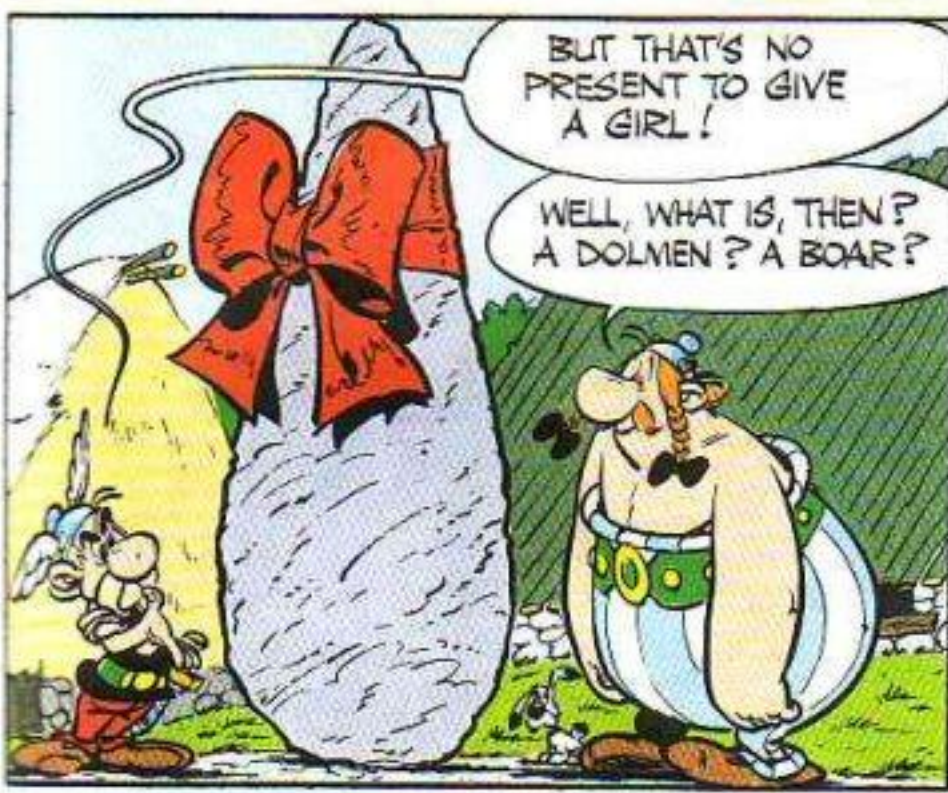
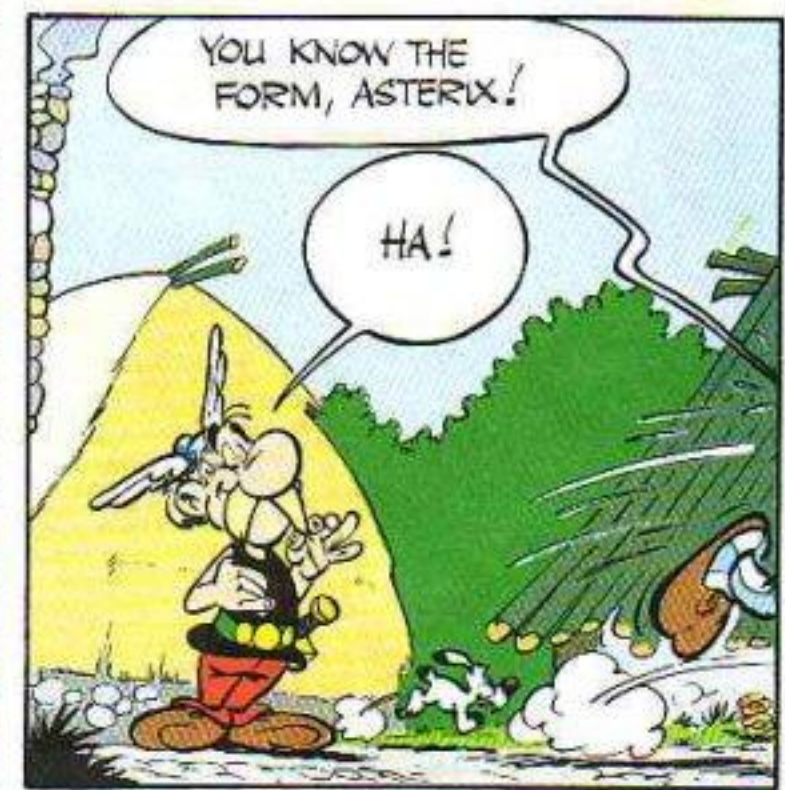
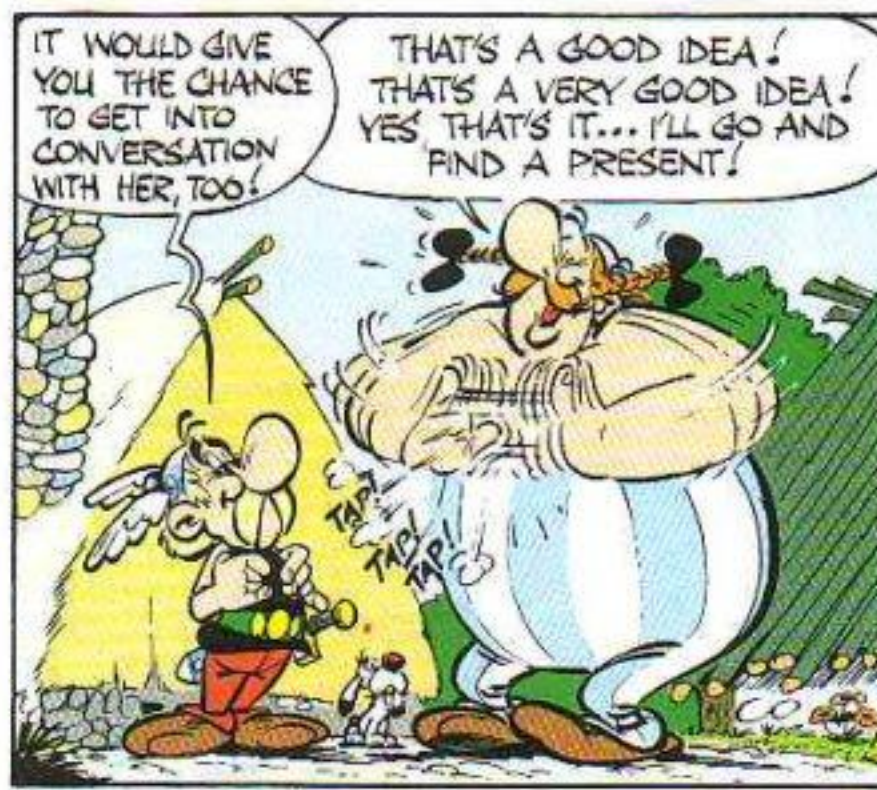
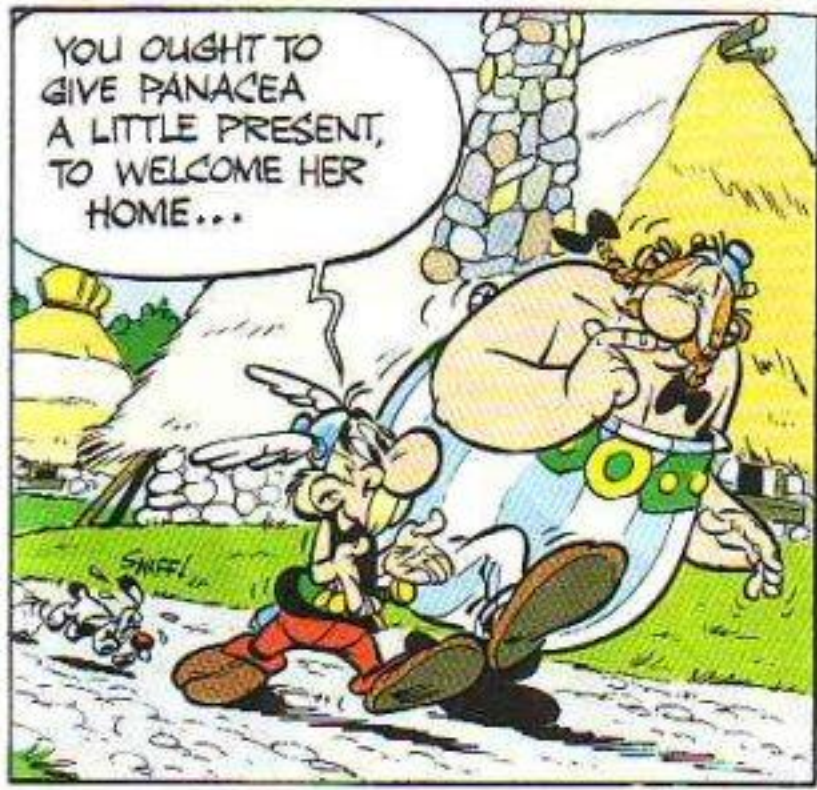
WOOF!

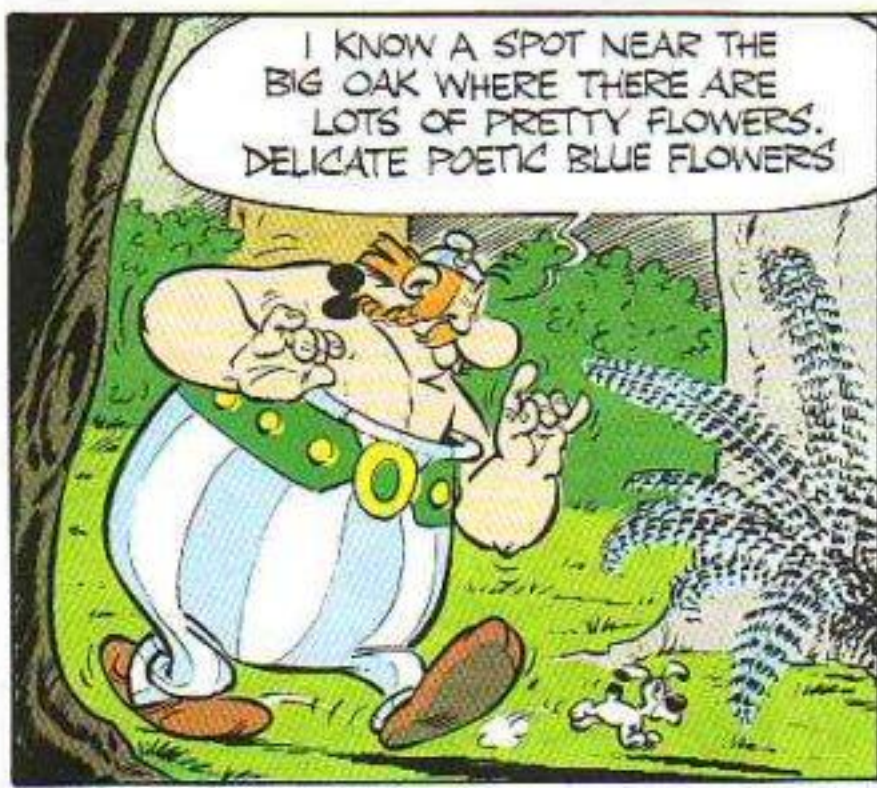












I KNOW A SPOT NEAR THE BIG OAK WHERE THERE ARE LOTS OF PRETTY FLOWERS. DELICATE POETIC BLUE FLOWERS



THERE'S SOMEONE COMING, BY MERCURY! IT MAY BE THE GAULLS! LET'S TRY AND GET BY WITHOUT BEING NOTICED!

OVER THERE! BY THAT BIG OAK!



I... I THINK THEY'RE COMING THIS WAY!

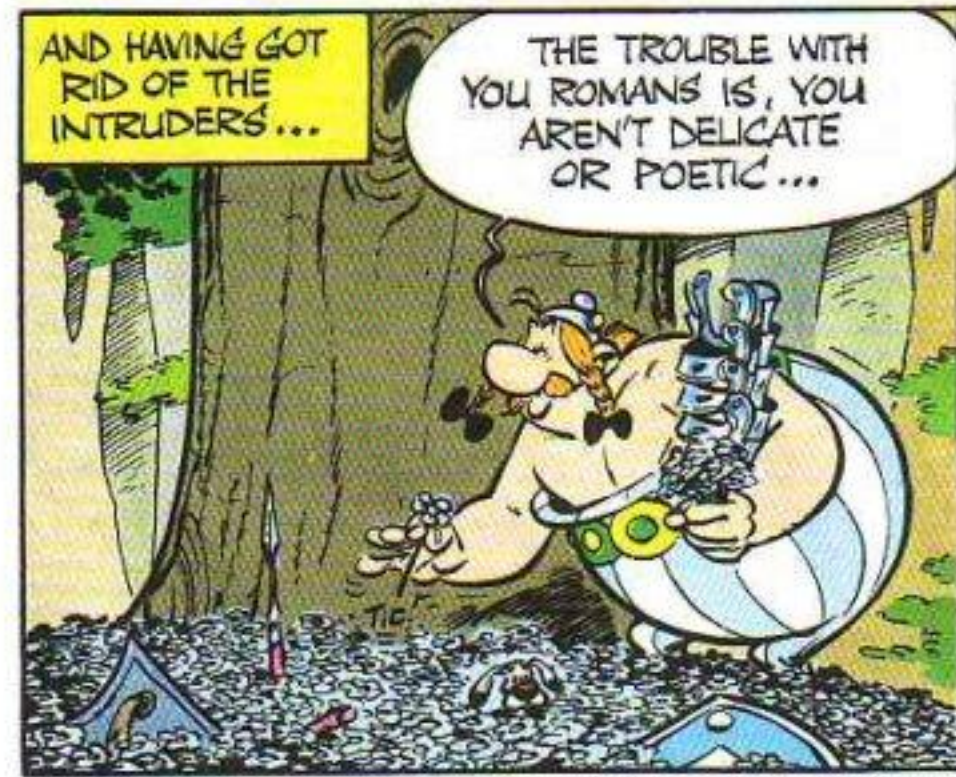


ER... QUOMODO VALES?

AREN'T YOU ASHAMED OF YOURSELVES, TREADING ON MY PRETTY BLUE FLOWERS?



WE'RE TERRIBLY SORRY... WE DIDN'T KNOW WE HAD TO KEEP OFF THE...



AND HAVING GOT RID OF THE INTRUDERS...

THE TROUBLE WITH YOU ROMANS IS, YOU AREN'T DELICATE OR POETIC...

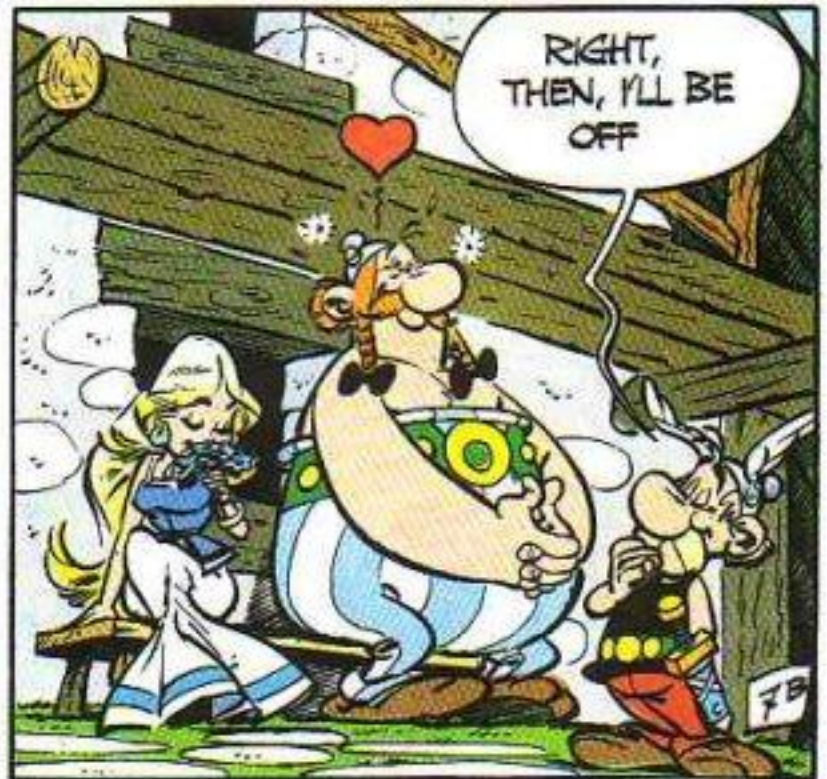
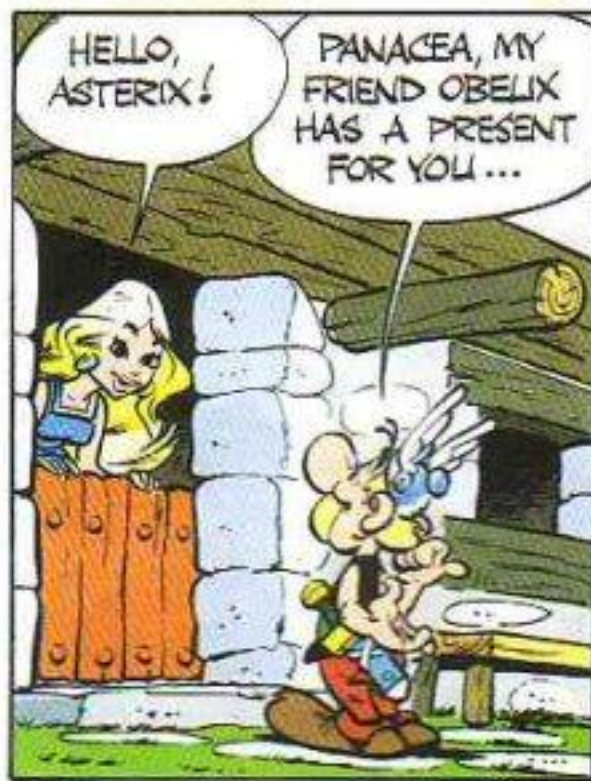
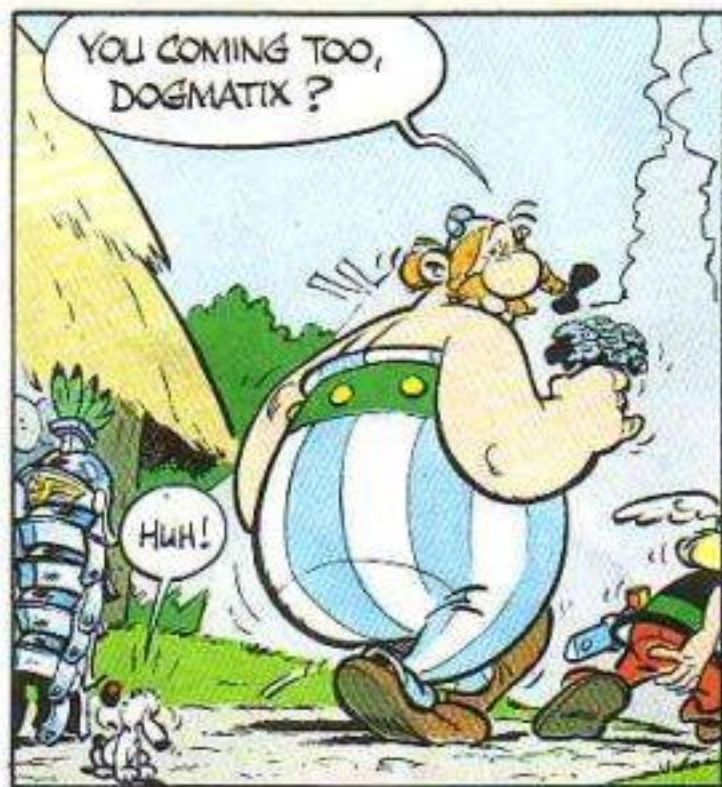
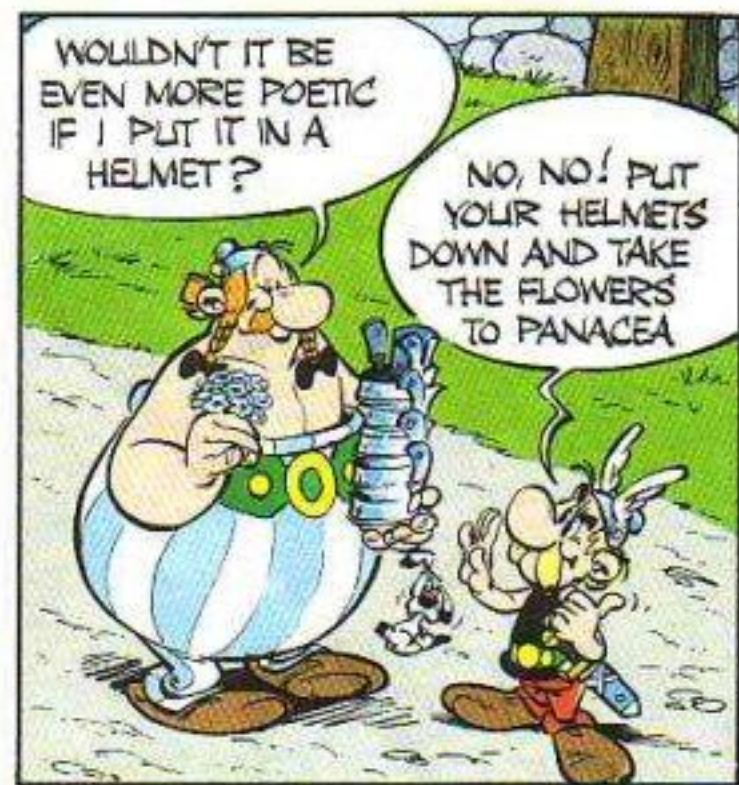


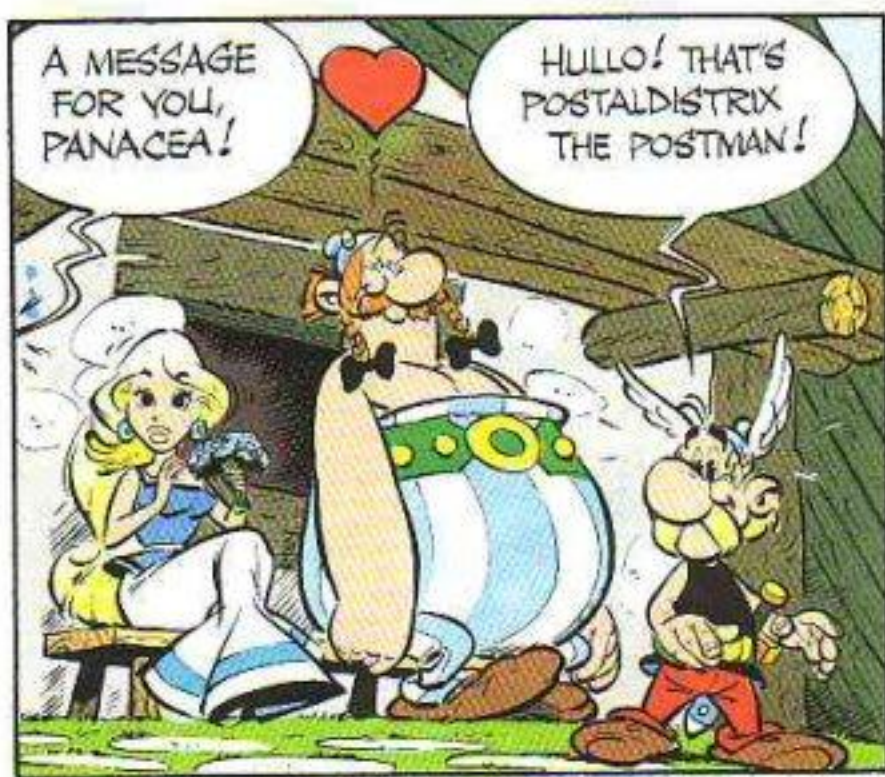
AND THE TROUBLE WITH ME IS, I'M SO SHY AND RETIRING!



HEAR WHAT THAT MASTODON SAID?

IF YOU ASK ME, THESE GAULLS ARE CRAZY!

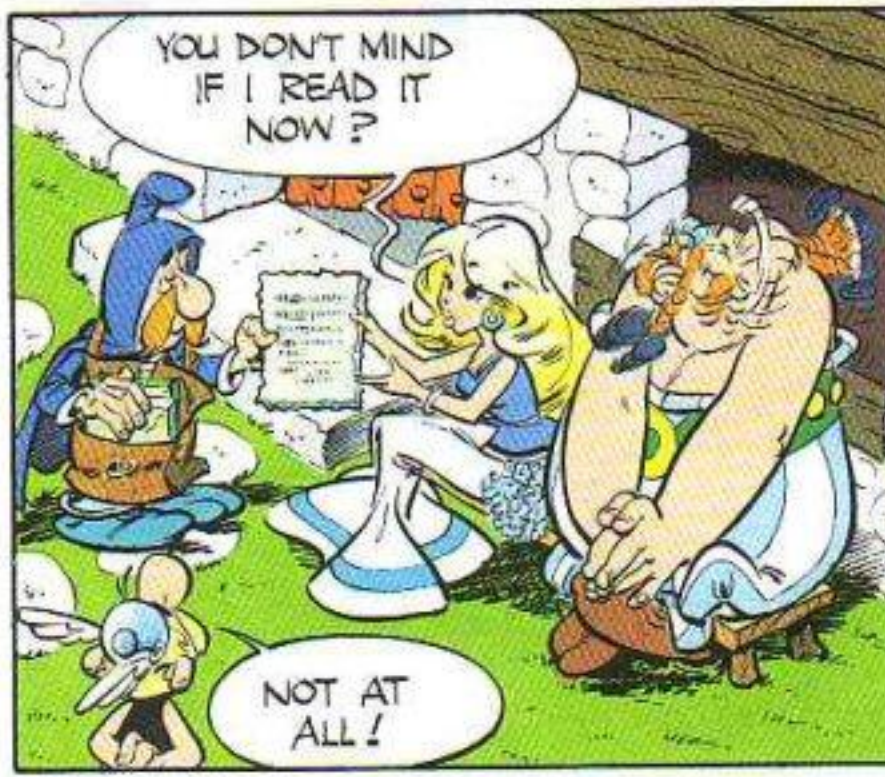




A MESSAGE FOR YOU, PANACEA!



HULLO! THAT'S POSTALDISTRIX THE POSTMAN!

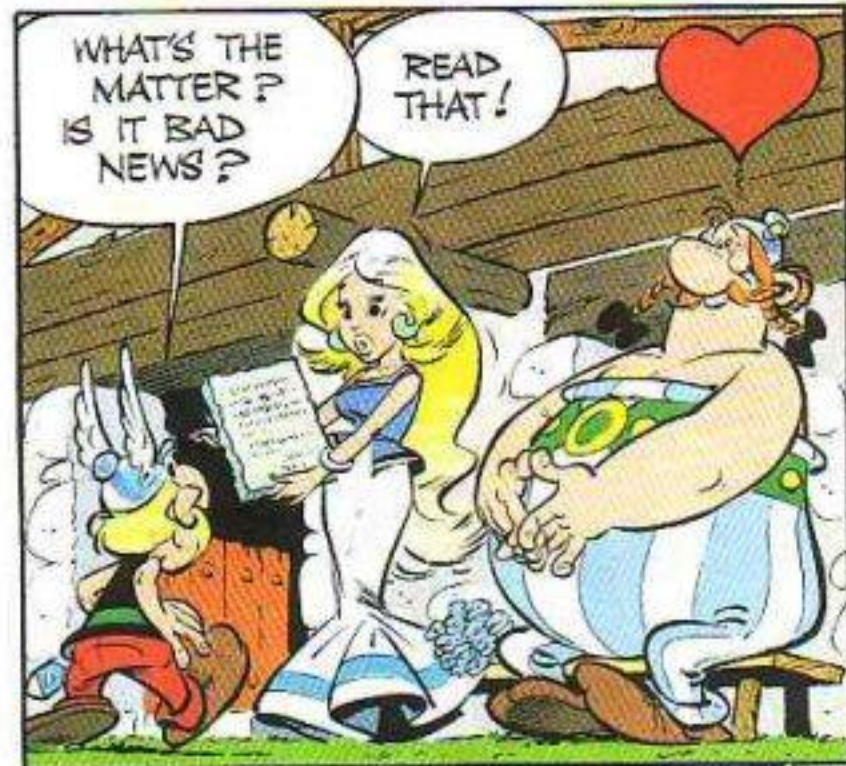


YOU DON'T MIND IF I READ IT NOW?

NOT AT ALL!



OH! BY BELISAMA!

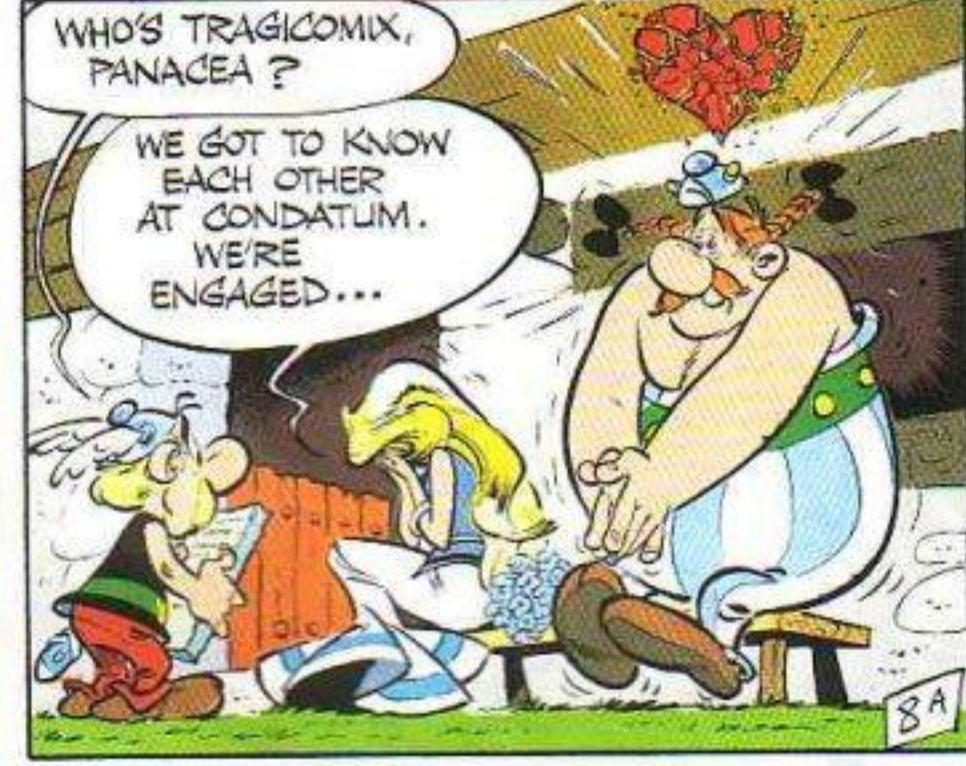


WHAT'S THE MATTER? IS IT BAD NEWS?

READ THAT!

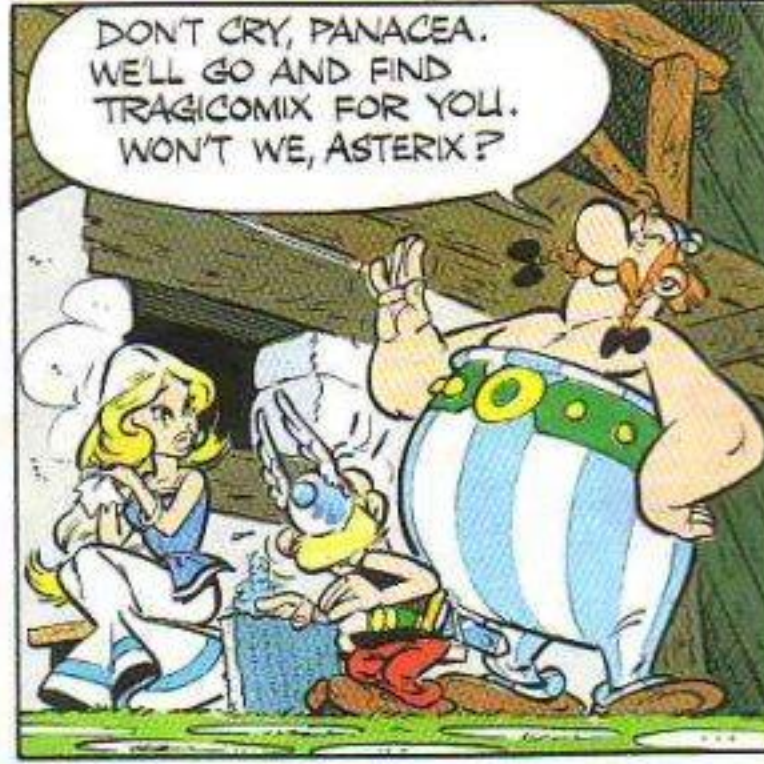
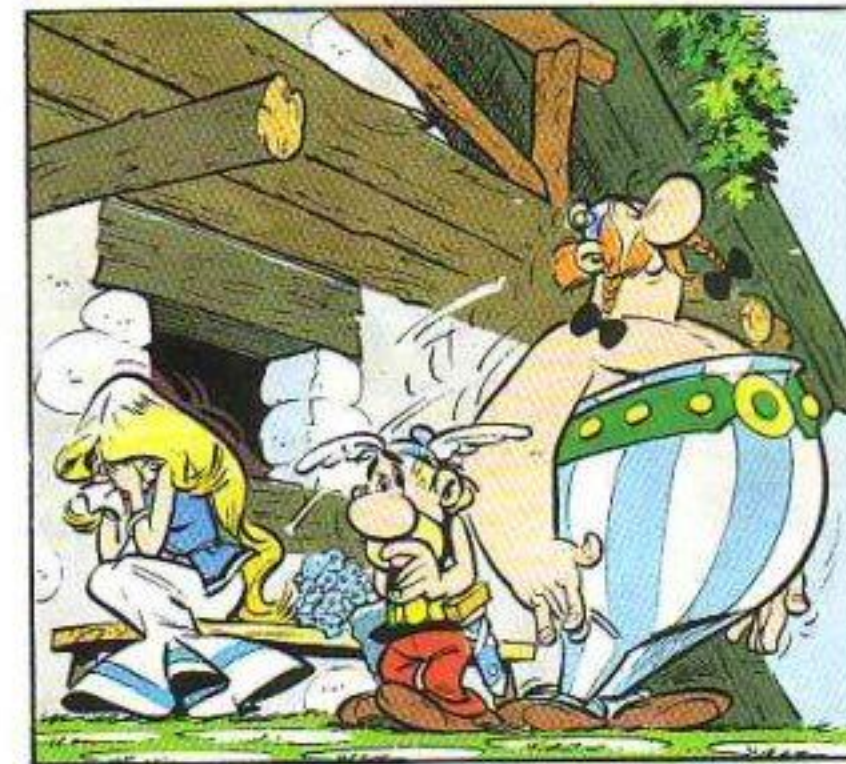


I'VE JUST GOT TIME TO CARVE A WORD. THE ROMANS MADE ME JOIN THE LEGION. WE'RE OFF TO AFRICA. FAREWELL FOR EVER TRAGICOMIX

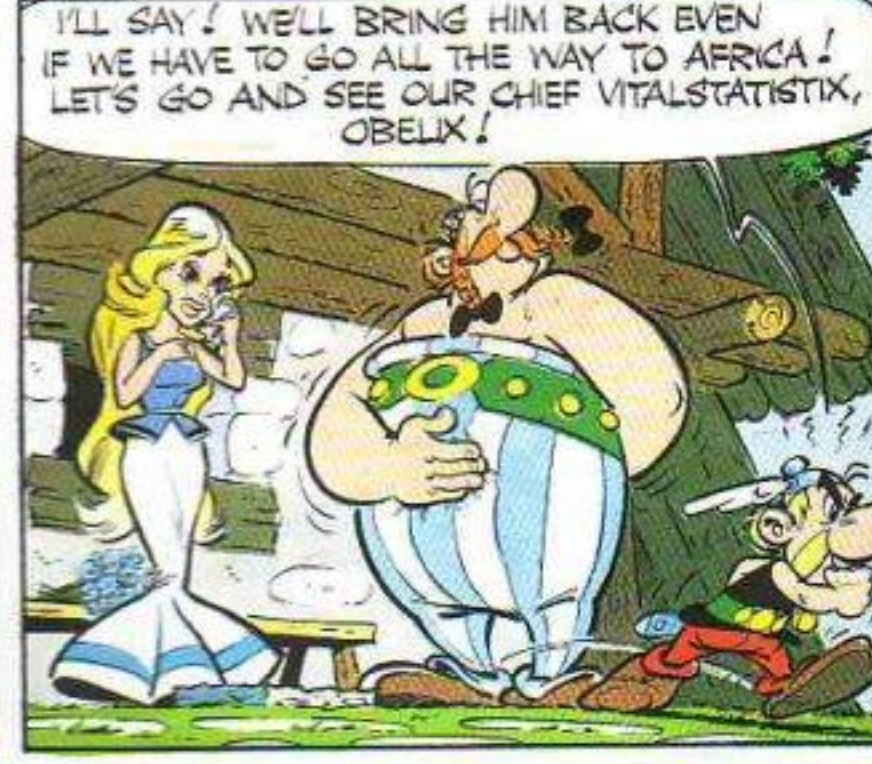


WHO'S TRAGICOMIX, PANACEA?

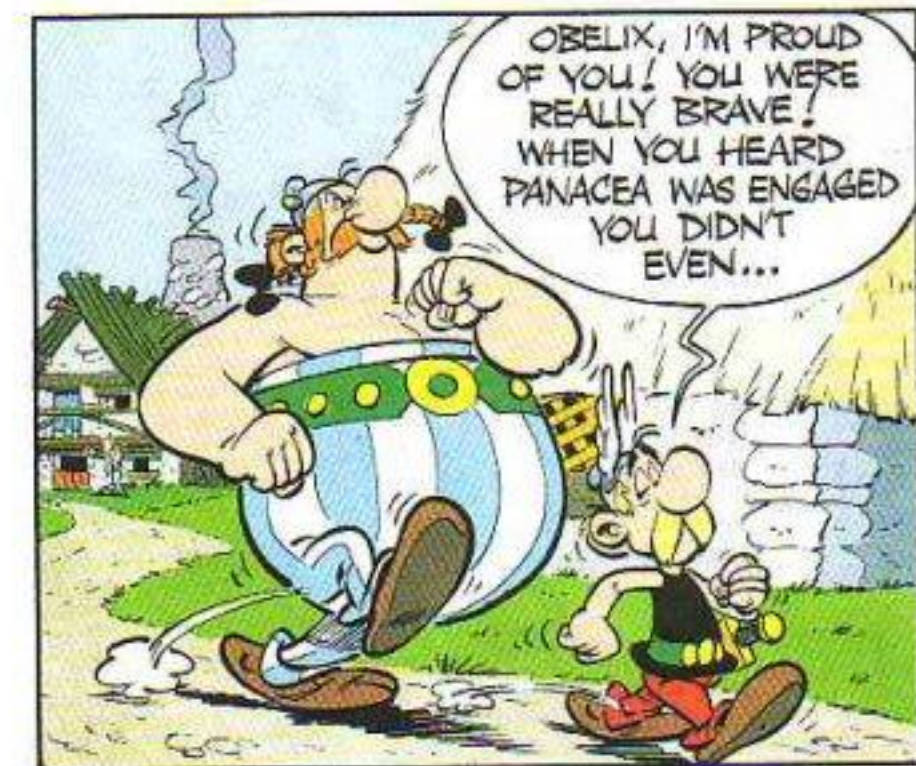
WE GOT TO KNOW EACH OTHER AT CONDATUM. WE'RE ENGAGED...



DON'T CRY, PANACEA. WE'LL GO AND FIND TRAGICOMIX FOR YOU. WON'T WE, ASTERIX?



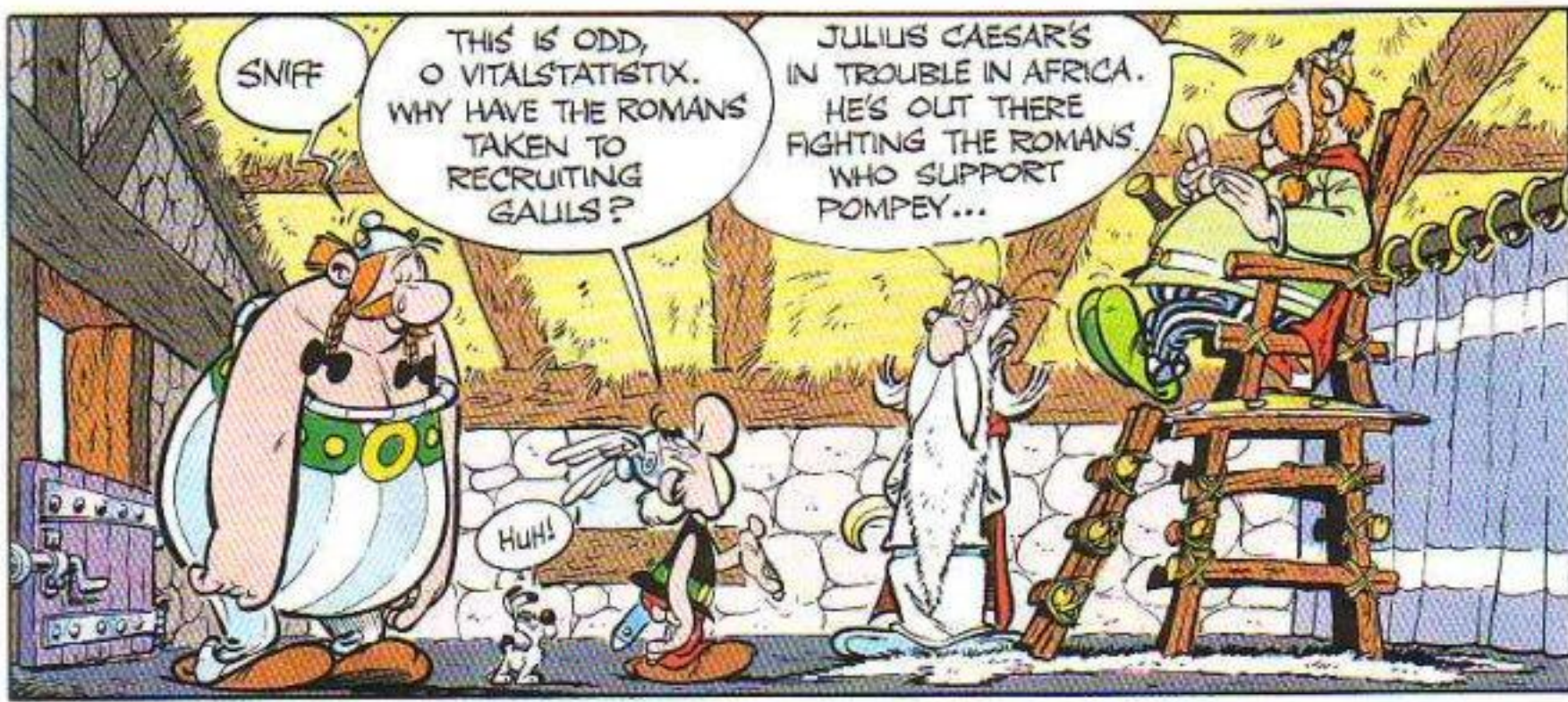
I'LL SAY! WE'LL BRING HIM BACK EVEN IF WE HAVE TO GO ALL THE WAY TO AFRICA! LET'S GO AND SEE OUR CHIEF VITALSTATISTIX, OBELIX!



OBELIX, I'M PROUD OF YOU! YOU WERE REALLY BRAVE! WHEN YOU HEARD PANACEA WAS ENGAGED YOU DIDN'T EVEN...



BOOHOOHOOO! I'M SO UNHAPPY!



SNIFF

THIS IS ODD, O VITALSTATISTIX. WHY HAVE THE ROMANS TAKEN TO RECRUITING GALLS?

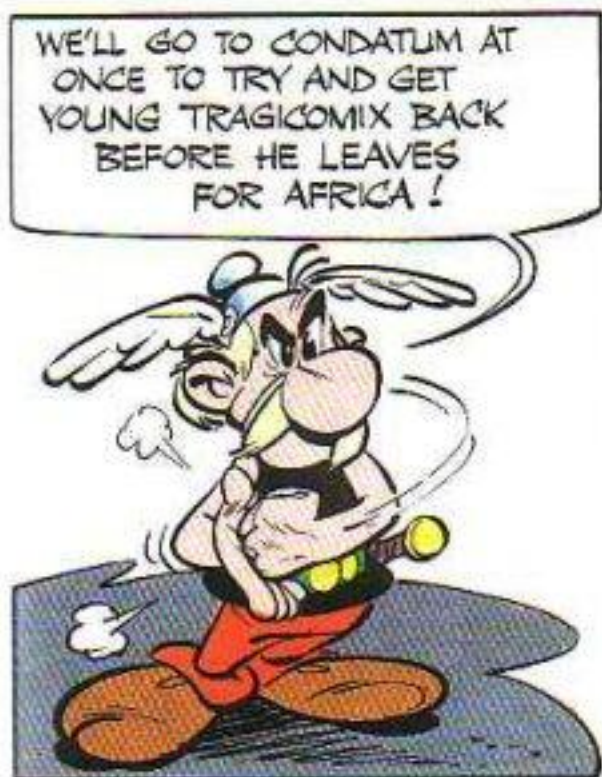
JULIUS CAESAR'S IN TROUBLE IN AFRICA. HE'S OUT THERE FIGHTING THE ROMANS WHO SUPPORT POMPEY...

HUH!



ACCORDING TO THE LATEST NEWS, HE'S BESIEGED IN RUSPINA*. HE NEEDS REINFORCEMENTS. HIS RECRUITING OFFICERS GO AROUND ASKING FOR VOLUNTEERS, AND WHEN THEY DON'T GET THEM THEY TAKE THEM BY FORCE...

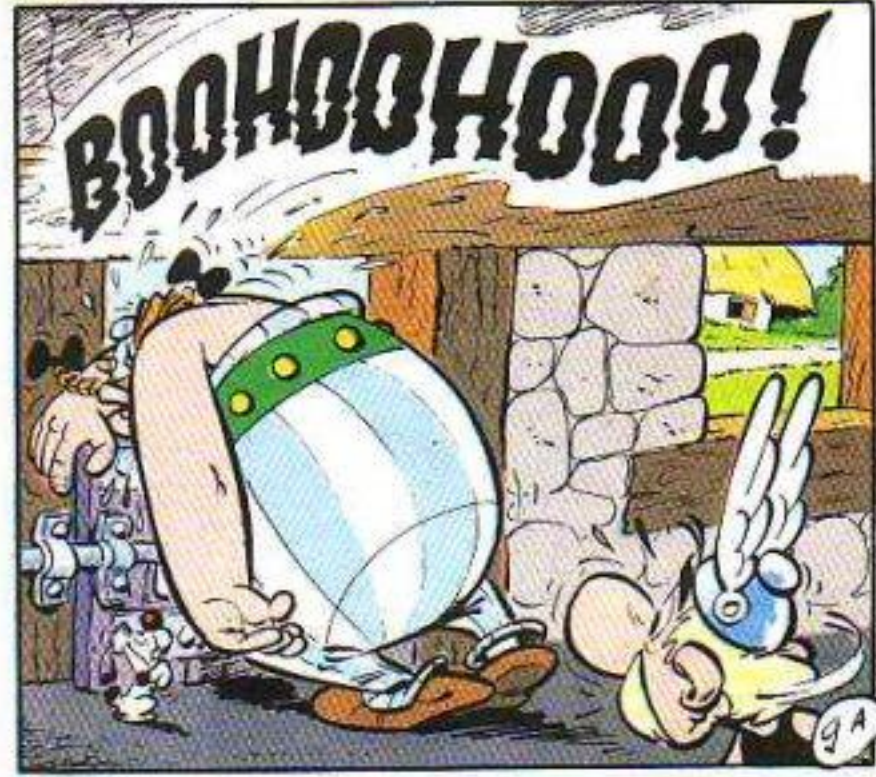
*MONASTIR (TUNISIA)



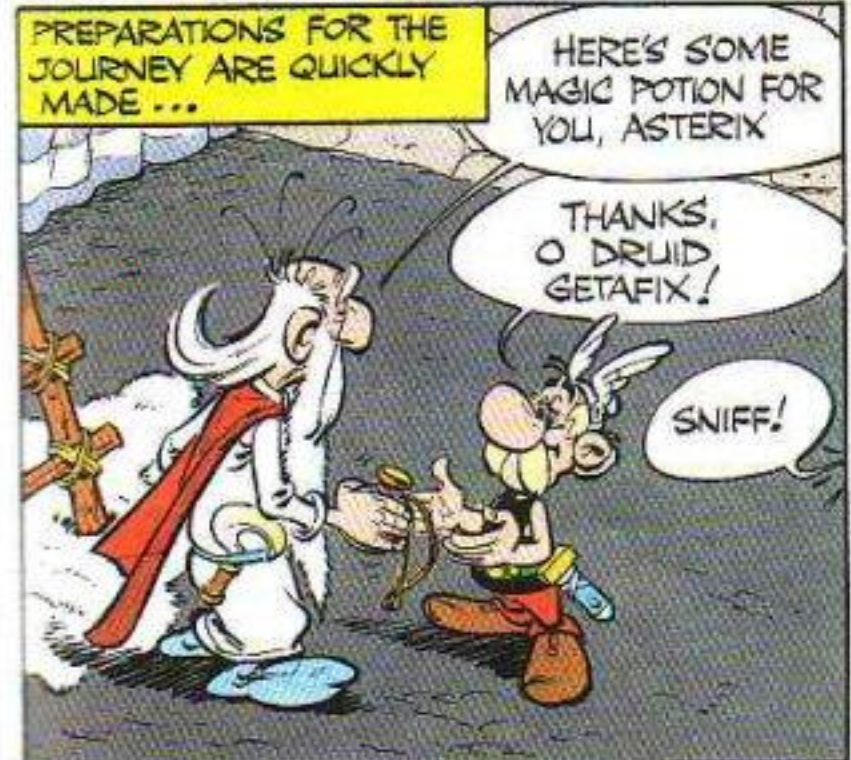
WE'LL GO TO CONDATUM AT ONCE TO TRY AND GET YOUNG TRAGICOMIX BACK BEFORE HE LEAVES FOR AFRICA!



THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I THOUGHT YOU'D SAY! IT JUST SHOWS YOUR INDOMITABLE COURAGE! PANACEA'S FIANCEE...



BOONHOONHOON!

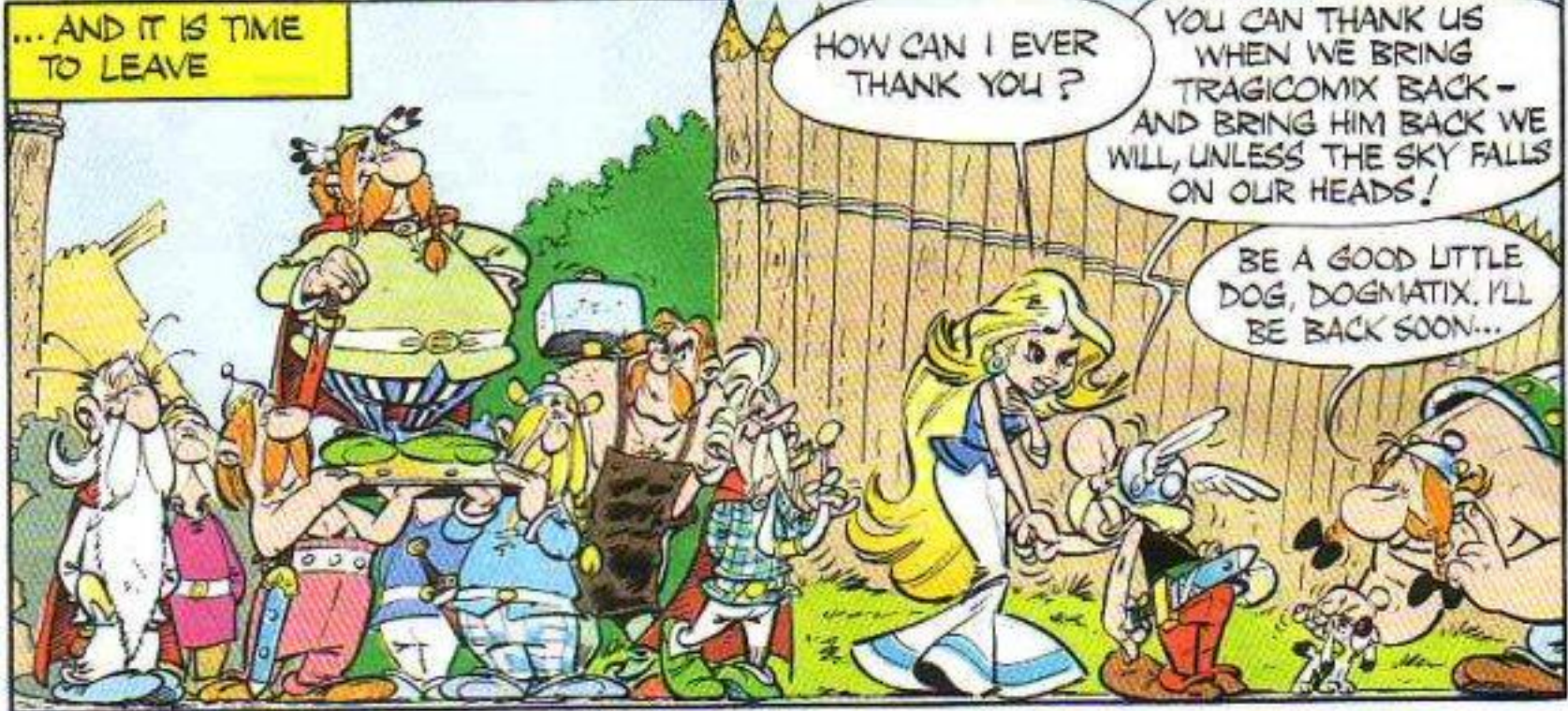


PREPARATIONS FOR THE JOURNEY ARE QUICKLY MADE...

HERE'S SOME MAGIC POTION FOR YOU, ASTERIX

THANKS, O DRUID GETAFIX!

SNIFF!

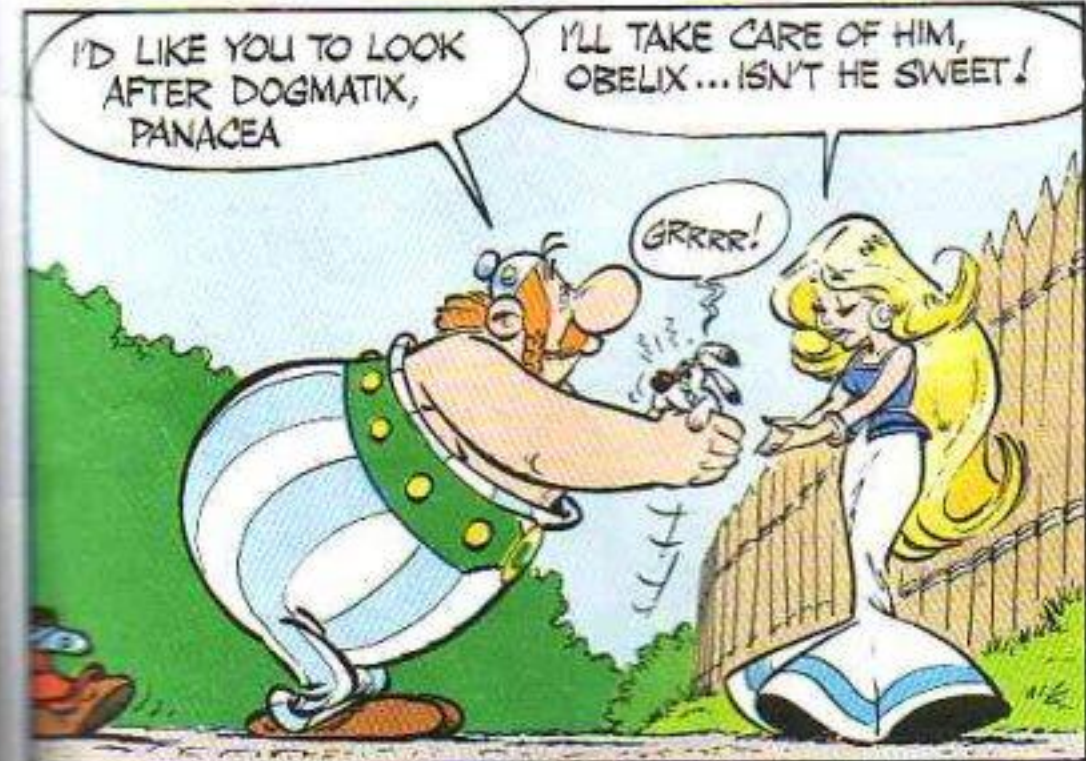


... AND IT IS TIME TO LEAVE

HOW CAN I EVER THANK YOU?

YOU CAN THANK US WHEN WE BRING TRAGICOMIX BACK - AND BRING HIM BACK WE WILL, UNLESS THE SKY FALLS ON OUR HEADS!

BE A GOOD LITTLE DOG, DOGMATIX. I'LL BE BACK SOON...



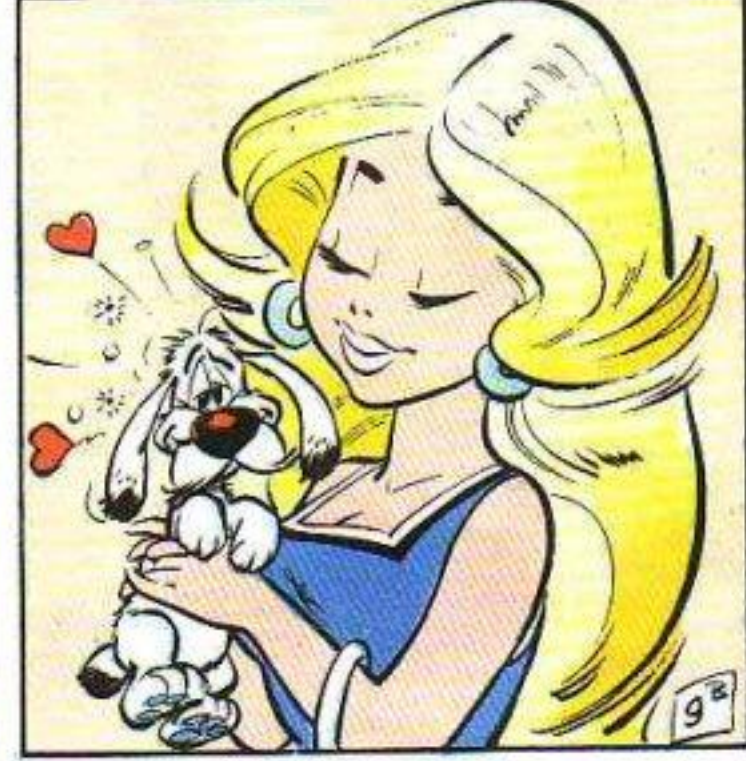
I'D LIKE YOU TO LOOK AFTER DOGMATIX, PANACEA

I'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM, OBELIX... ISN'T HE SWEET!

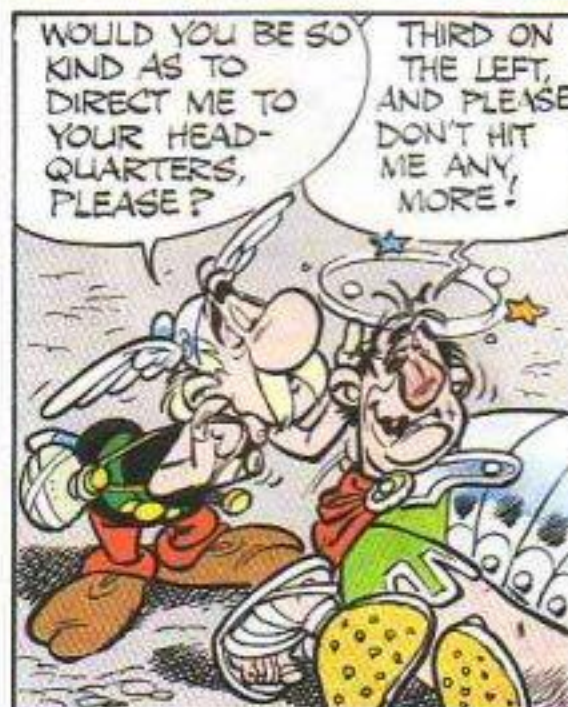
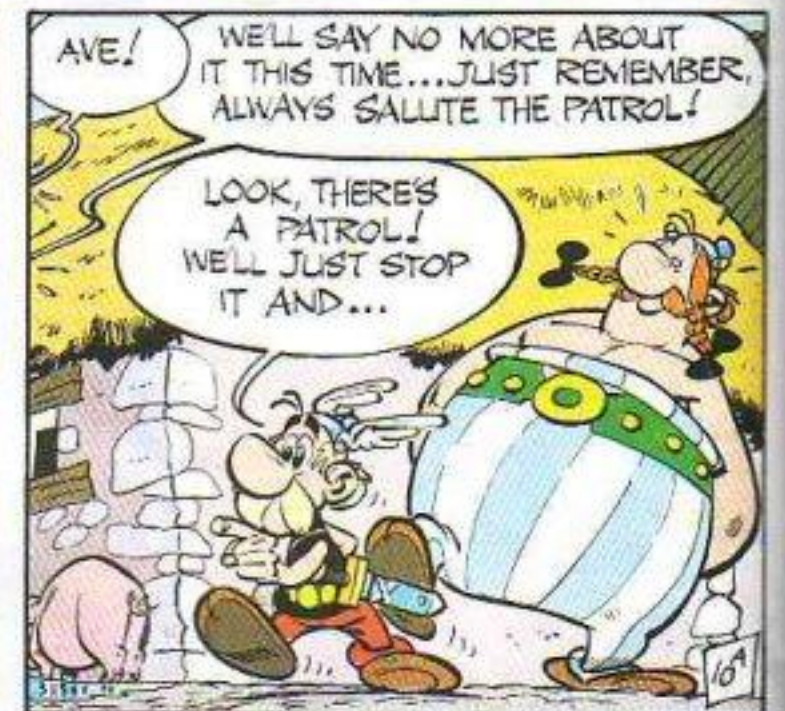
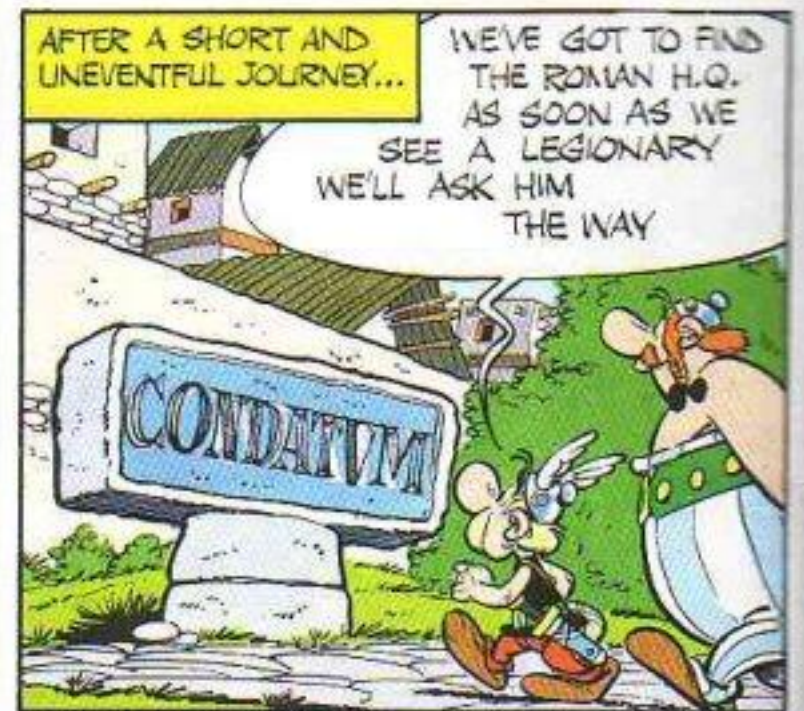
GRRRR!

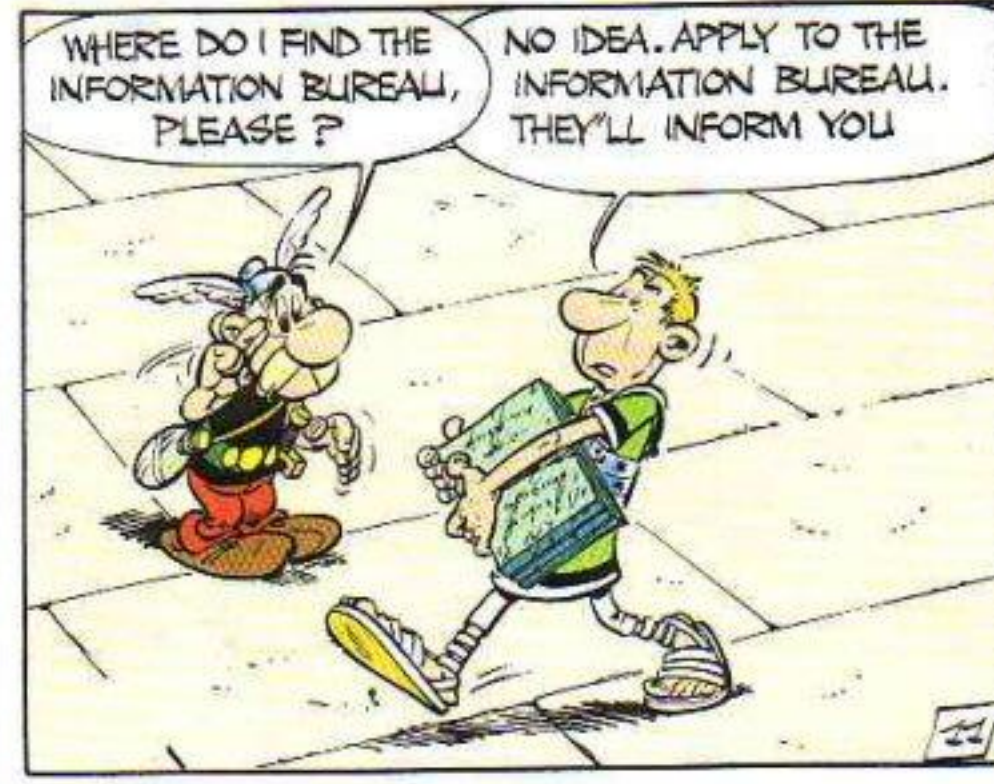
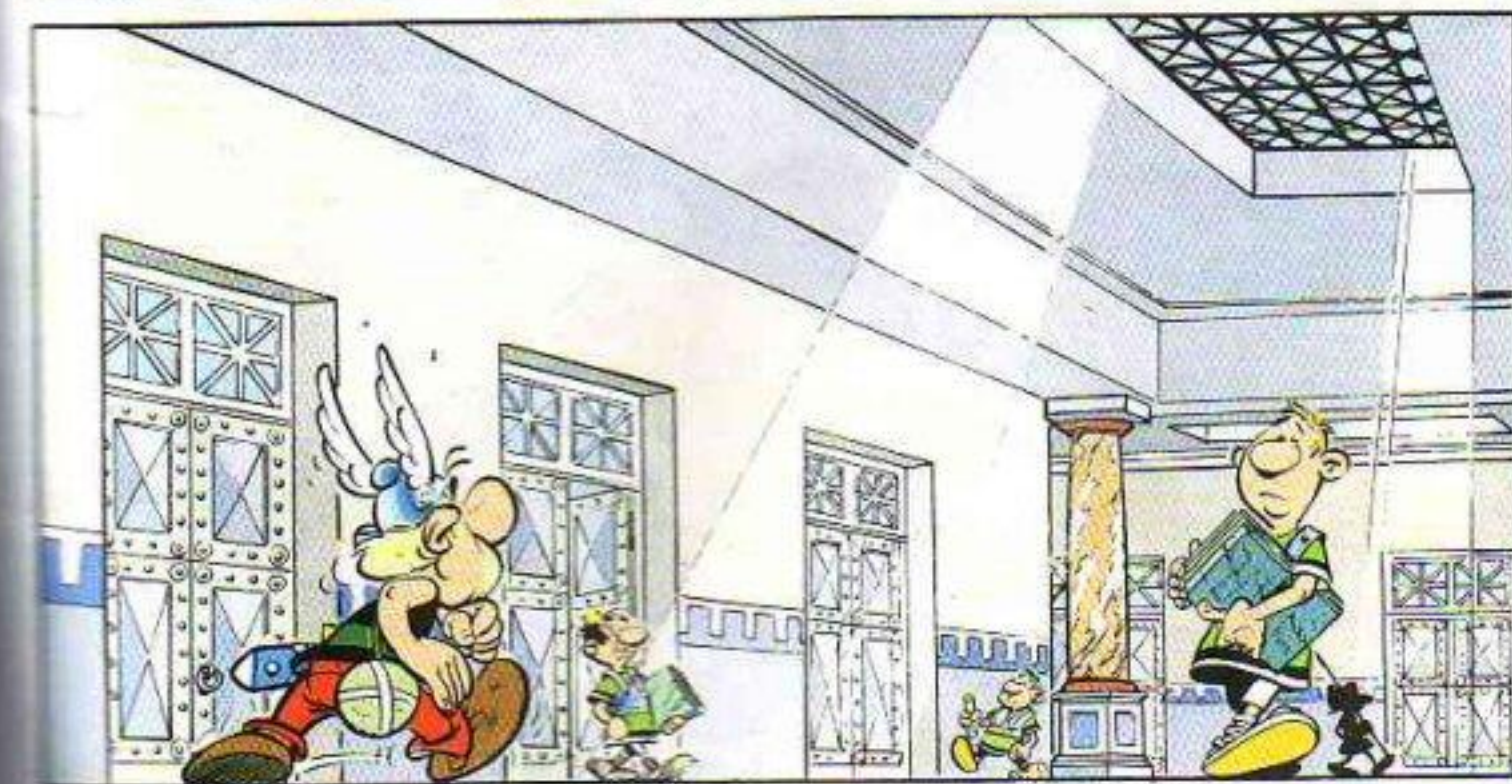
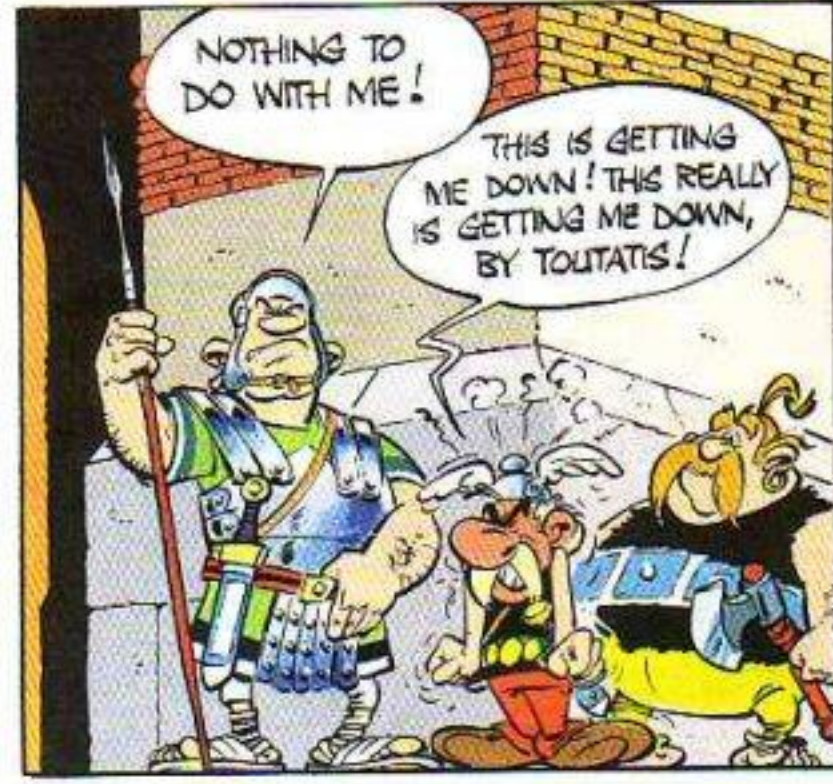


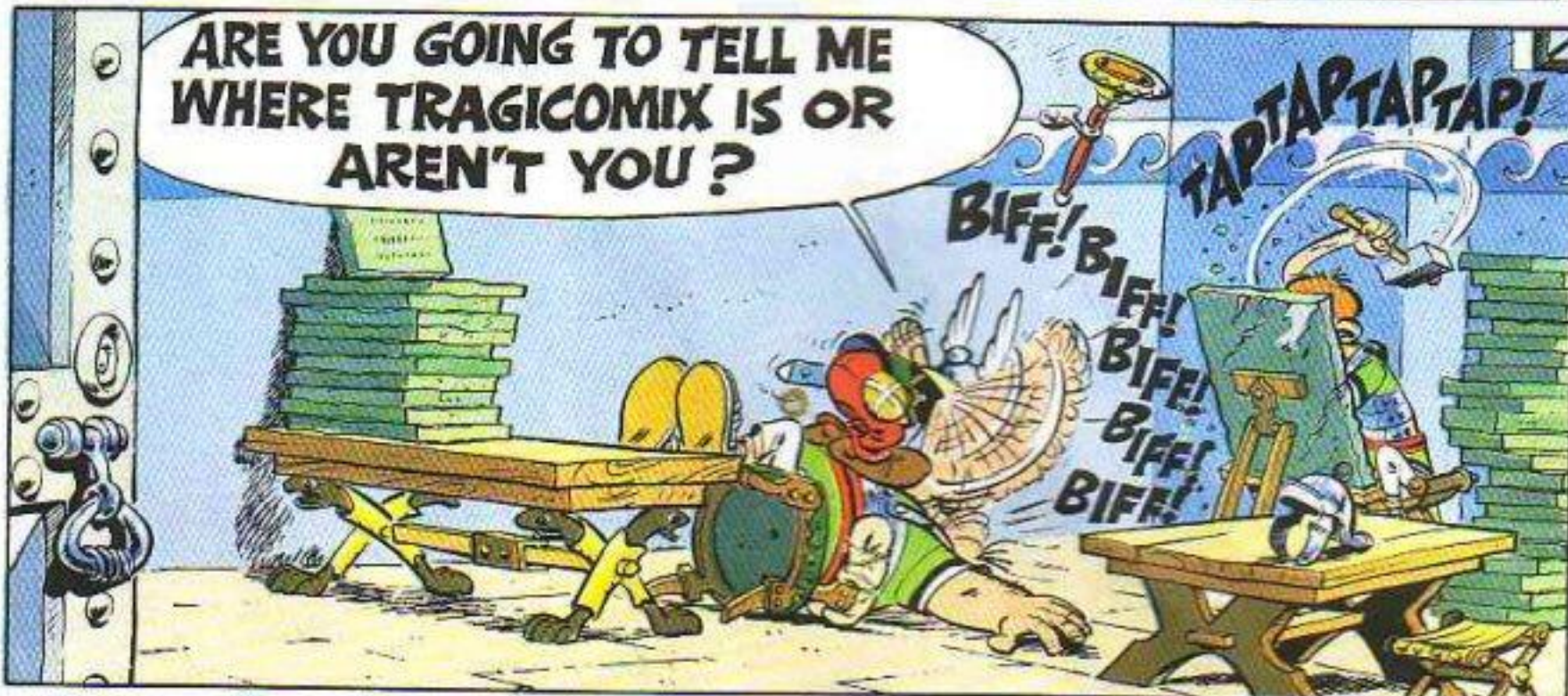
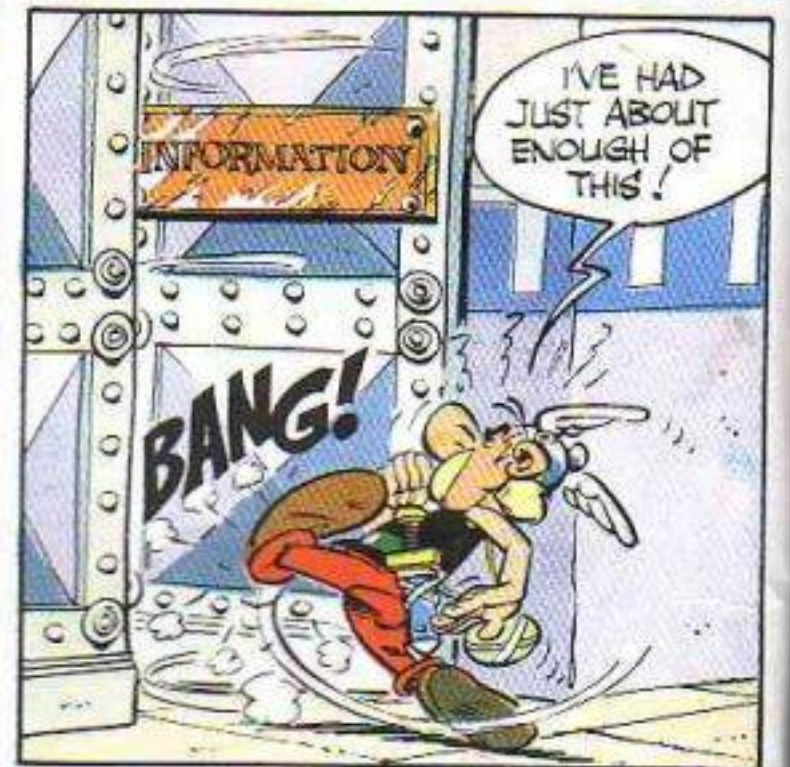
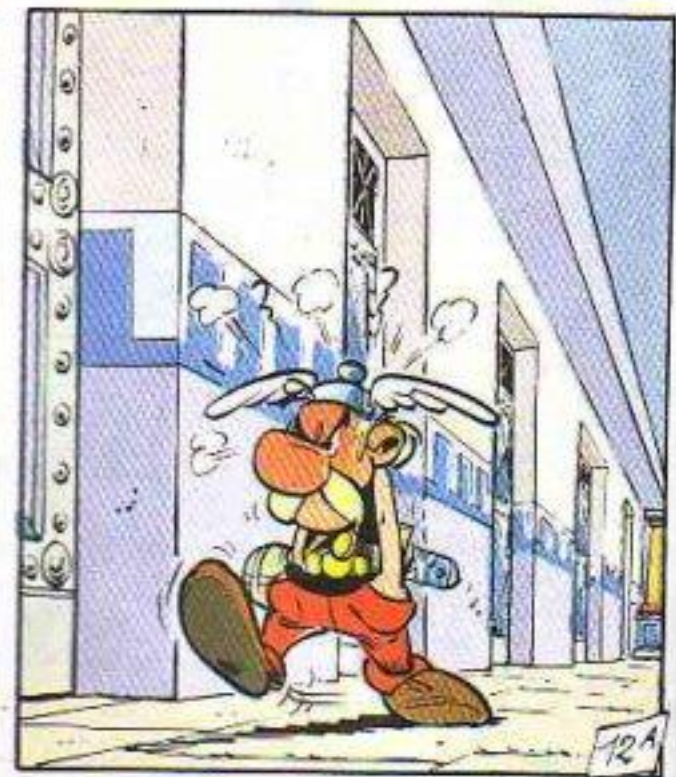
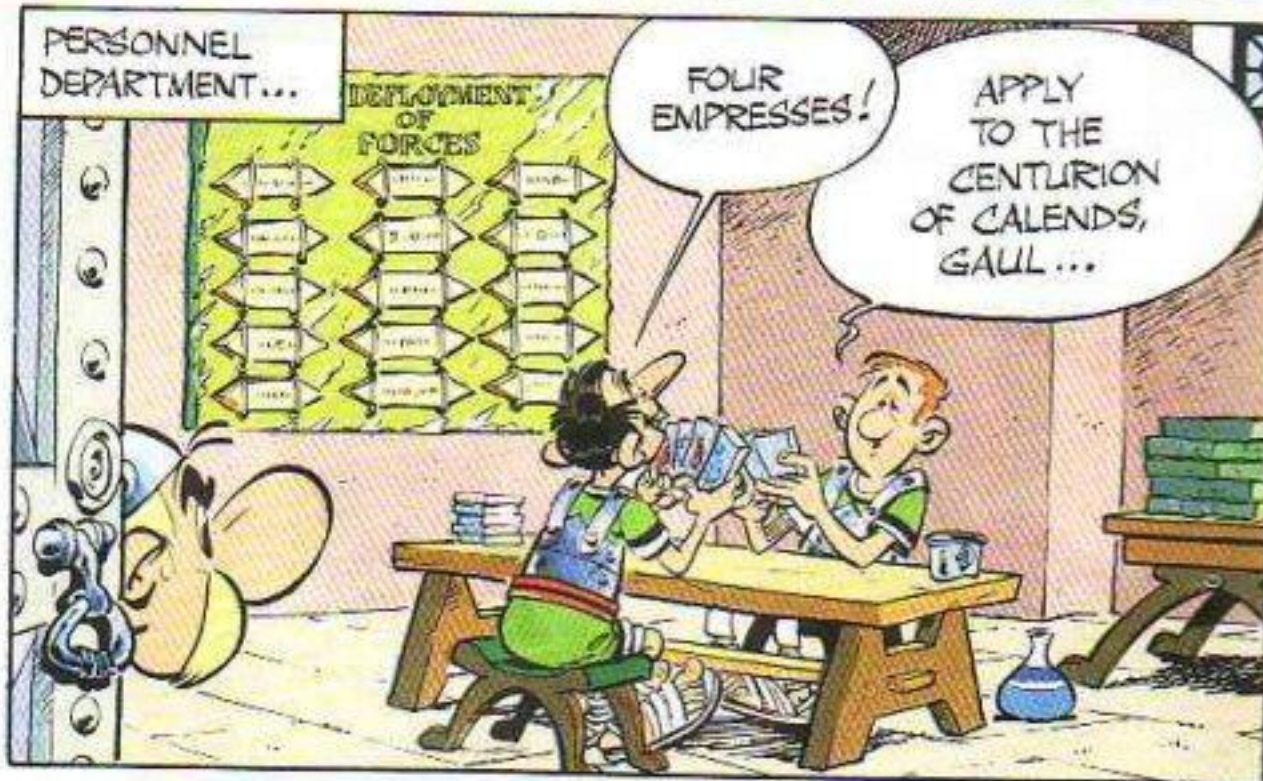
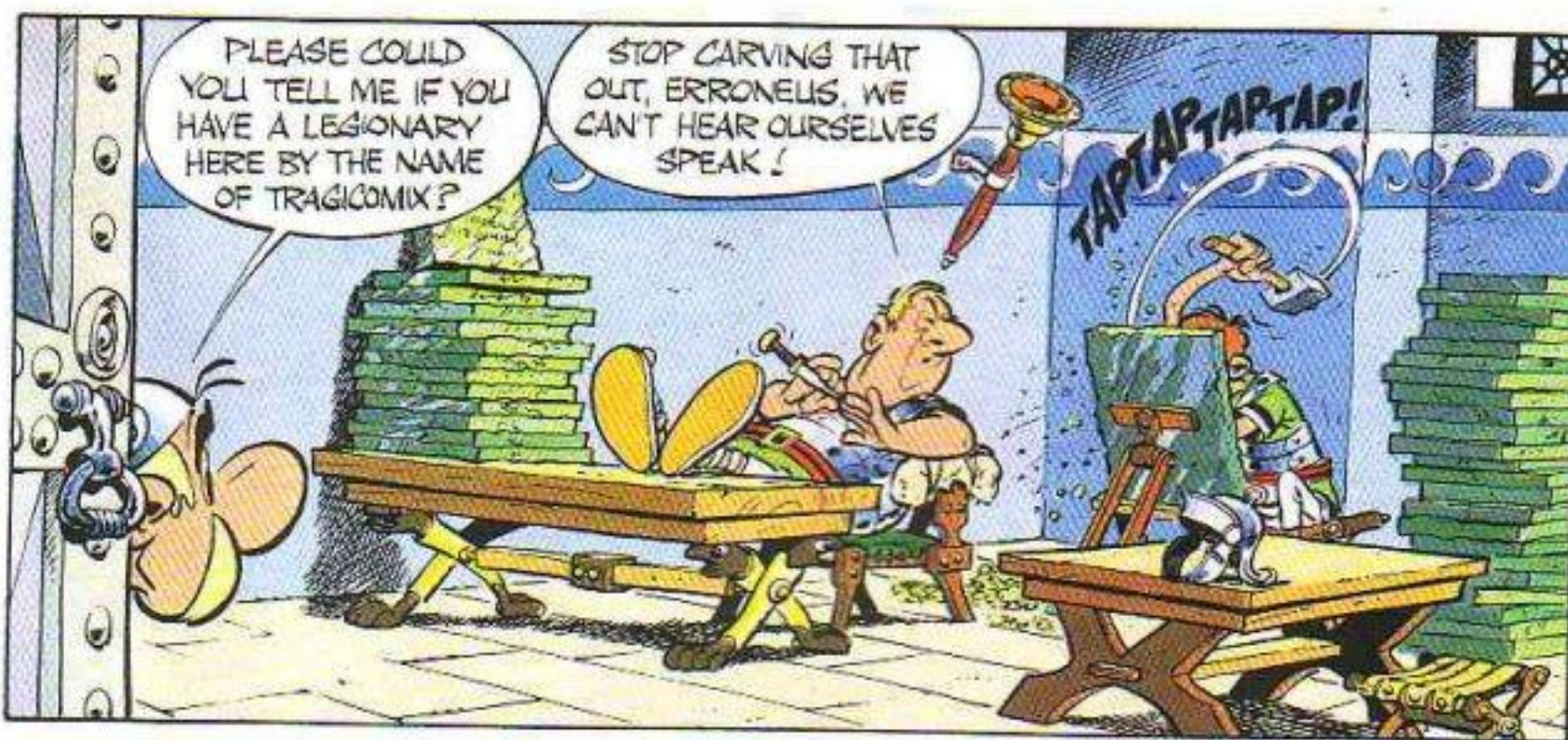
SMACK!

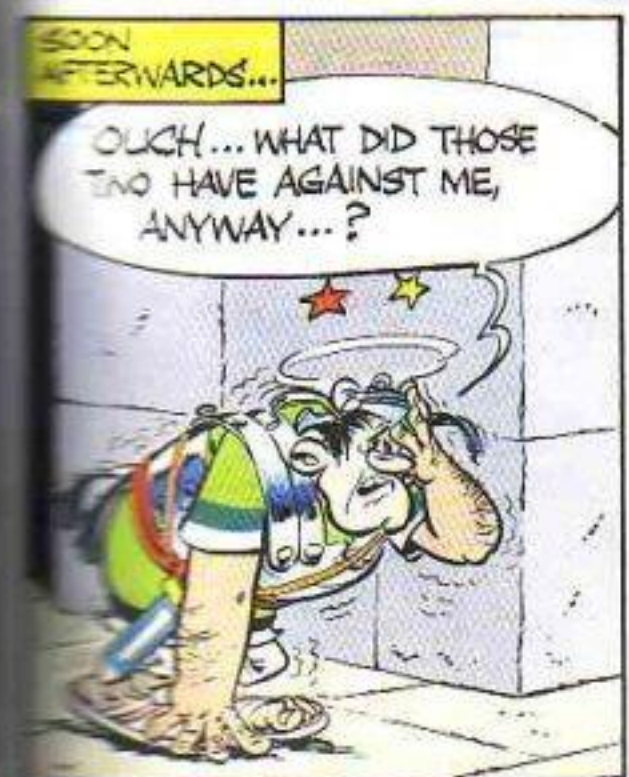
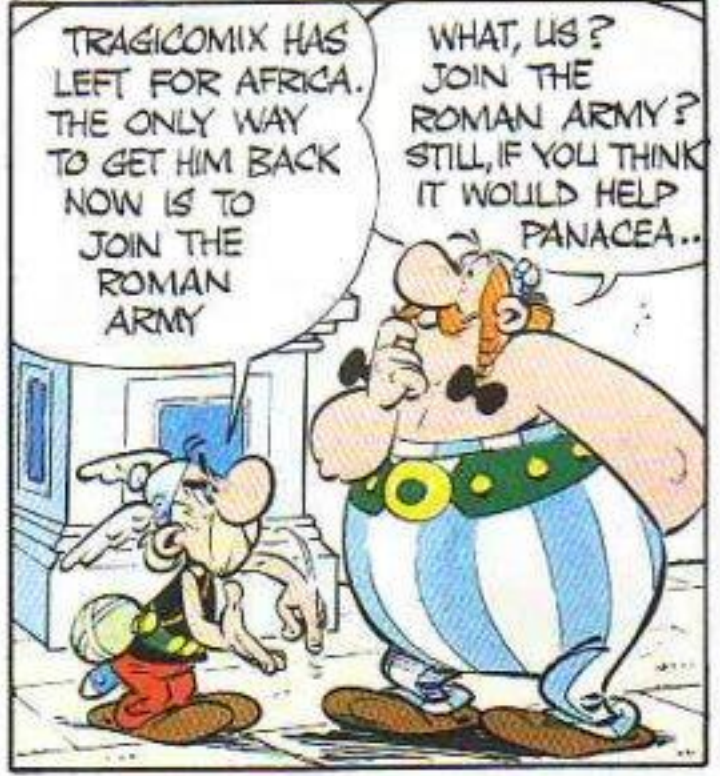
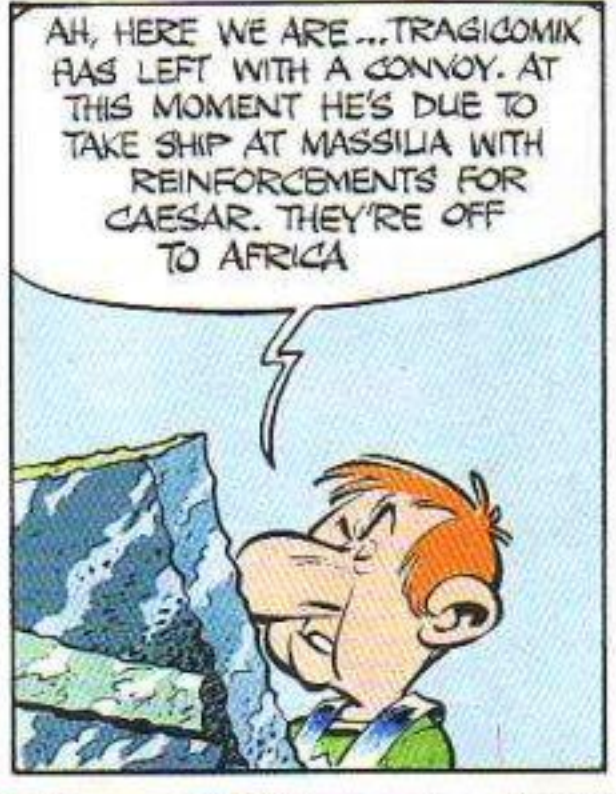
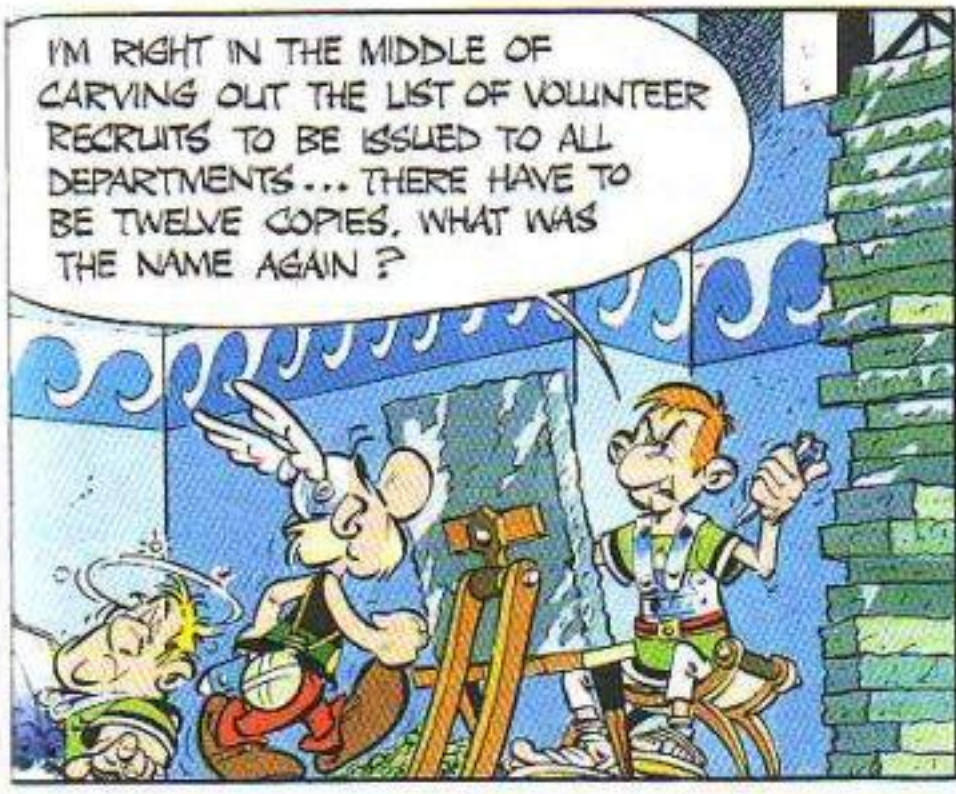


92



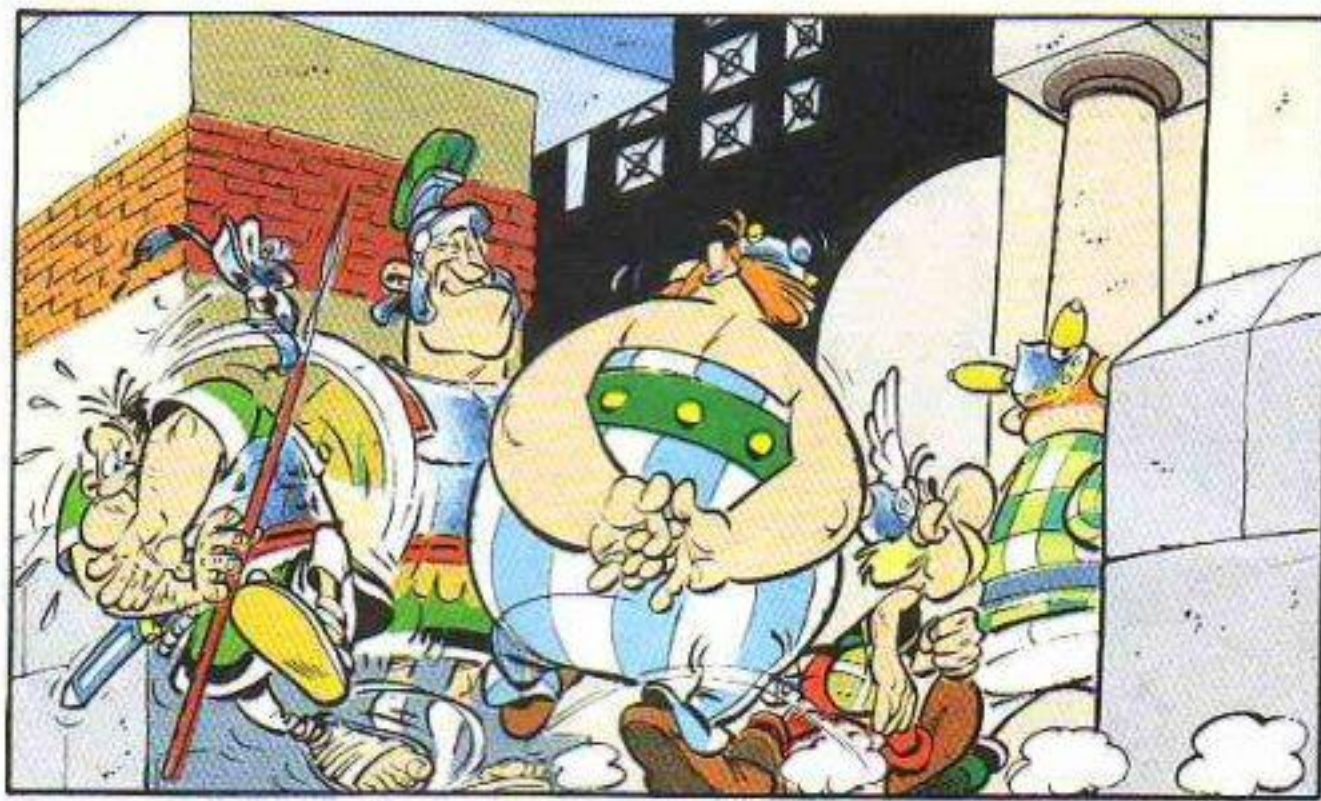








AH, HERE ARE THE VOLUNTEERS! COME ALONG IN, YOUNG FELLOWS. PLEASUED TO MEET YOU



WE WEREN'T PARTICULARLY POLITE THAT TIME, ASTERIX

THERE'S A TIME AND A PLACE FOR EVERYTHING, OBELIX



SPLENDID, BOYS, SPLENDID! YOU WILL NOW GIVE YOUR NAMES TO THE LEGIONARY. HE WILL CARVE YOU DOWN...



NEVERATALOS, GREEK, BY ZEUS!

SELECTIVEM- PLOYMENTAX, BRITISH, I SAY, WHAT!

GASTRONOMIX, BELGIAN



Hemispheric, Gothic!

Allegoric, Gothic!

INTERPRETER?

HEMISPHERIC AND ALLEGORIC. THEY'RE GOTHIS



HE WANTS TO KNOW IF THIS REALLY IS AN INN?

TELL HIM YES, AND ASK HIM FOR HIS NAME FOR THE REGISTER



PTENISNET

TooTooToo!



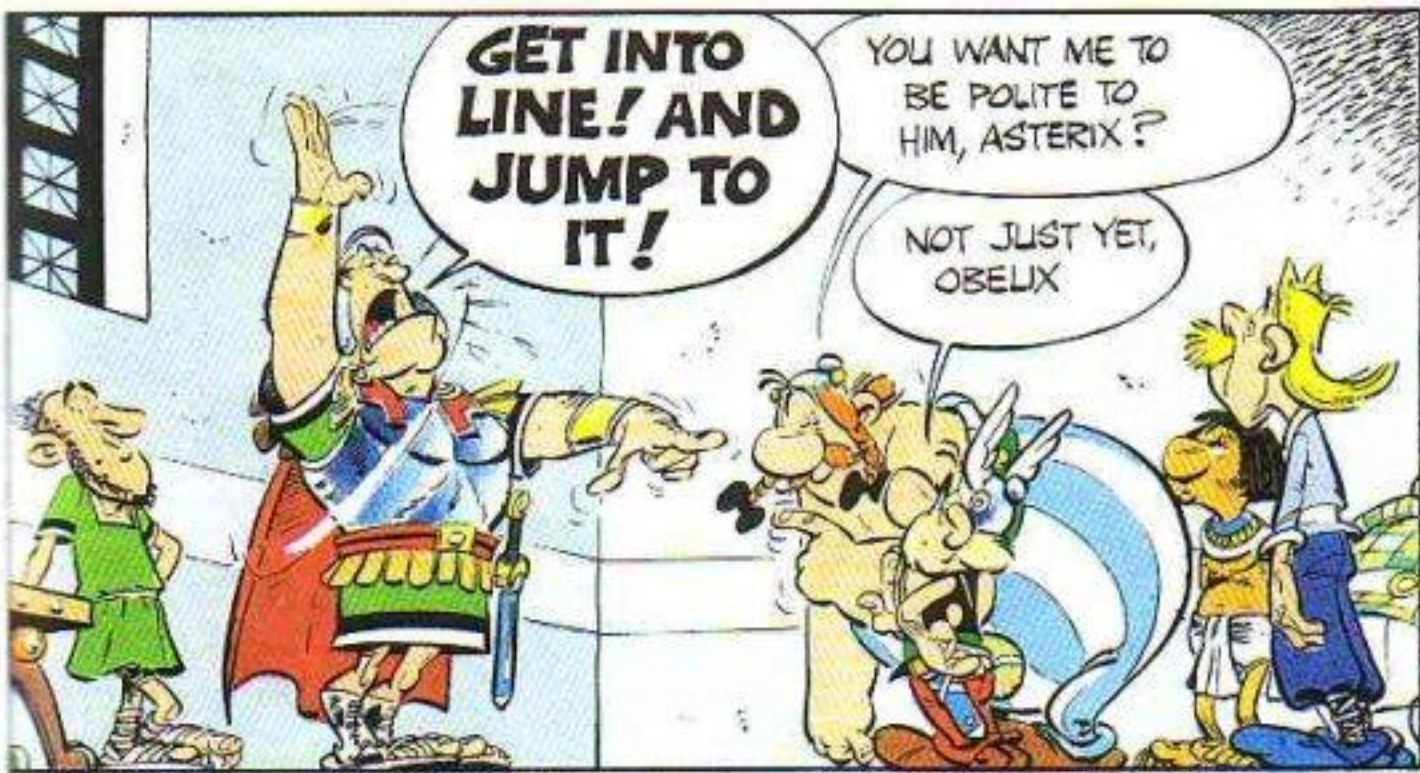
ASTERIX AND OBELIX, GAULS

AND THAT'S THE LOT!

TooTooToo!



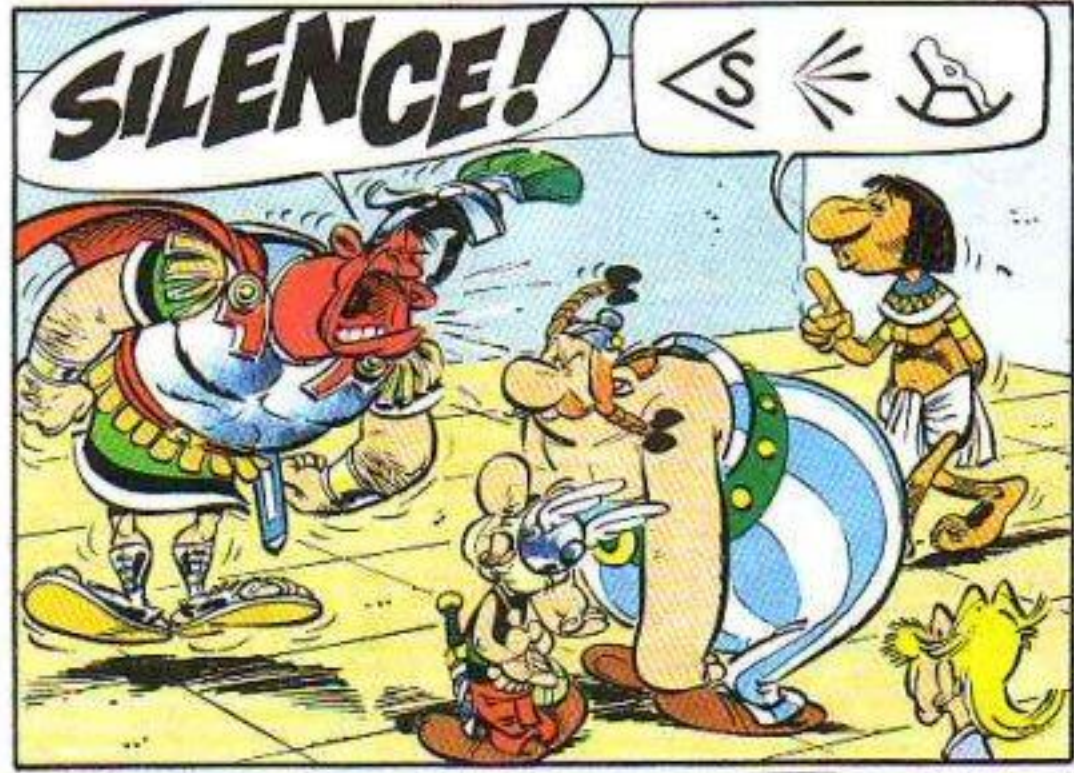
SILENCE! STOP GIGGLING! YOU'RE IN THE ARMY NOW!



GET INTO LINE! AND JUMP TO IT!

YOU WANT ME TO BE POLITE TO HIM, ASTERIX?

NOT JUST YET, OBELIX



SILENCE!

S



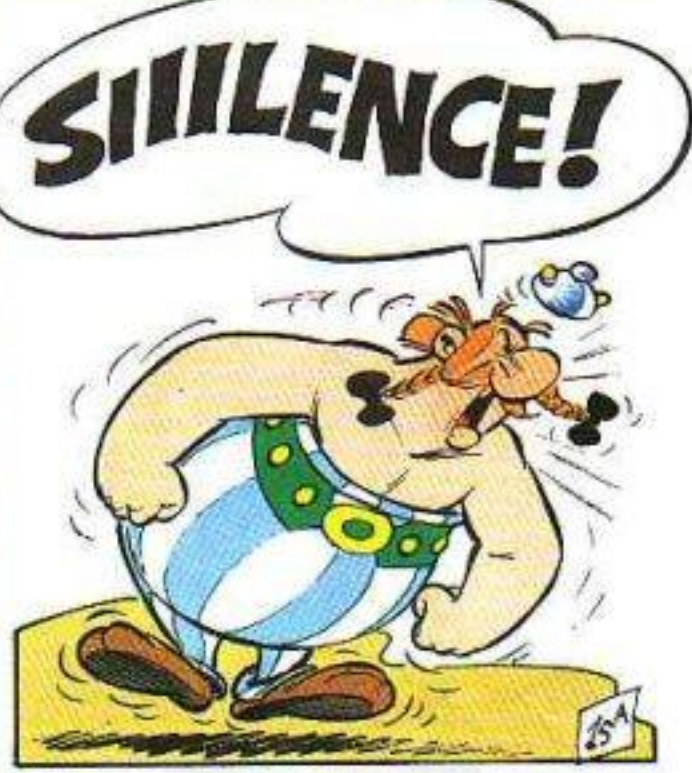
WHAT'S HE SAYING?

HE SAYS HE WANTS A ROOM LOOKING ON TO THE STREET



WHAT!? IF I FEEL LIKE TALKING, MY LITTLE FRIEND...

LOOK, ARE WE GOING TO KEEP TALKING LIKE THIS MUCH LONGER? THE FACT IS, WE'RE IN A HURRY



SILENCE!



What's going on around here?

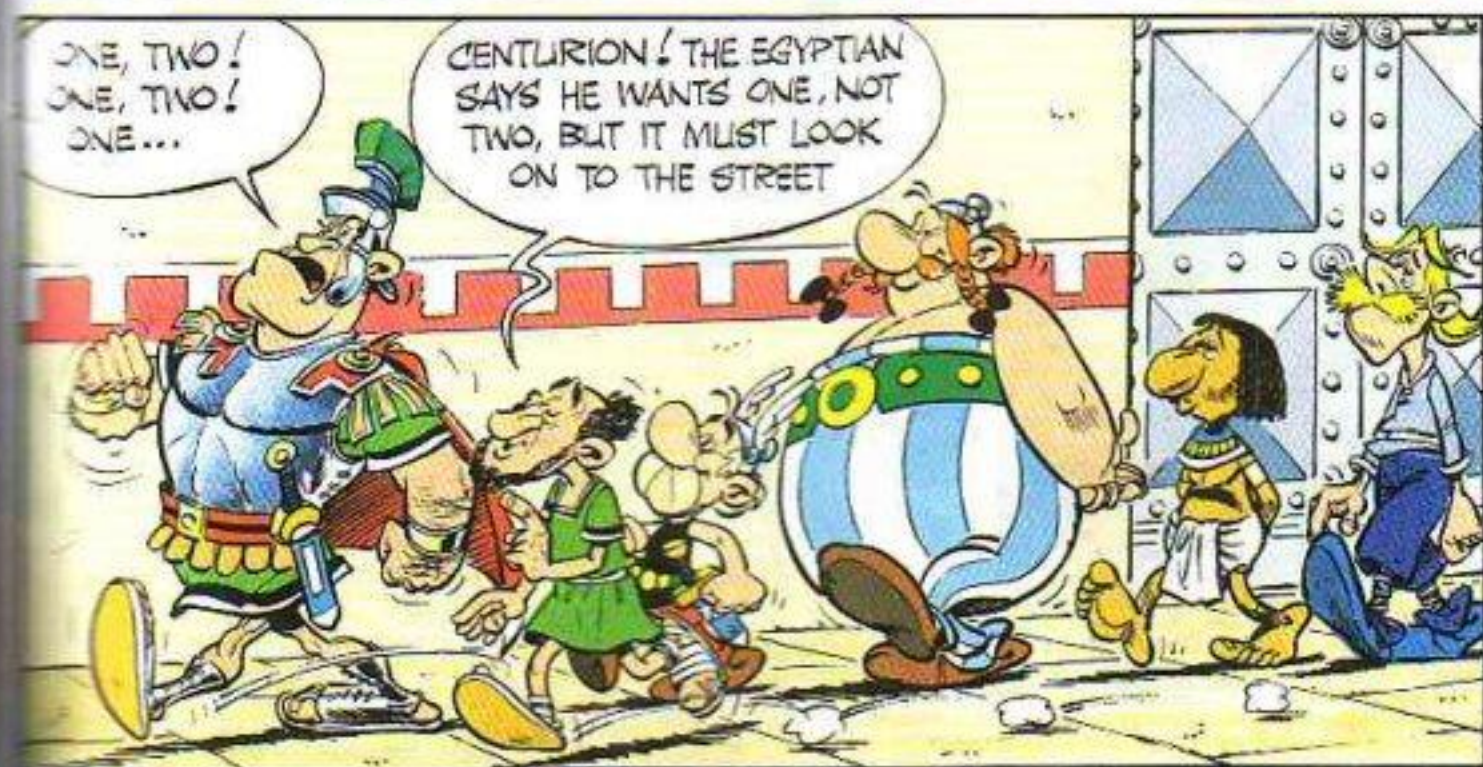
The Egyptian wants a room looking on to the street

Can we choose our rooms, then?

LET'S ALL JUST KEEP CALM...



FOLLOW ME. YOU'RE GOING FOR MEDICAL INSPECTION. THE DOCTOR DECIDES IF YOU'RE FIT ENOUGH TO MAKE GOOD LEGIONARIES... NOW, ALL IN STEP, IF YOU DON'T MIND...



ONE, TWO! ONE, TWO! ONE...

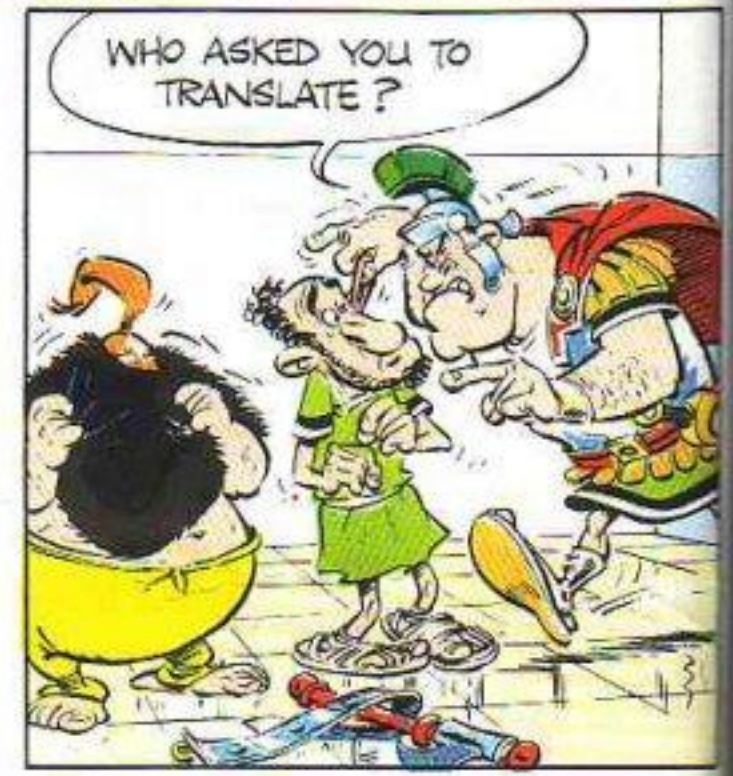
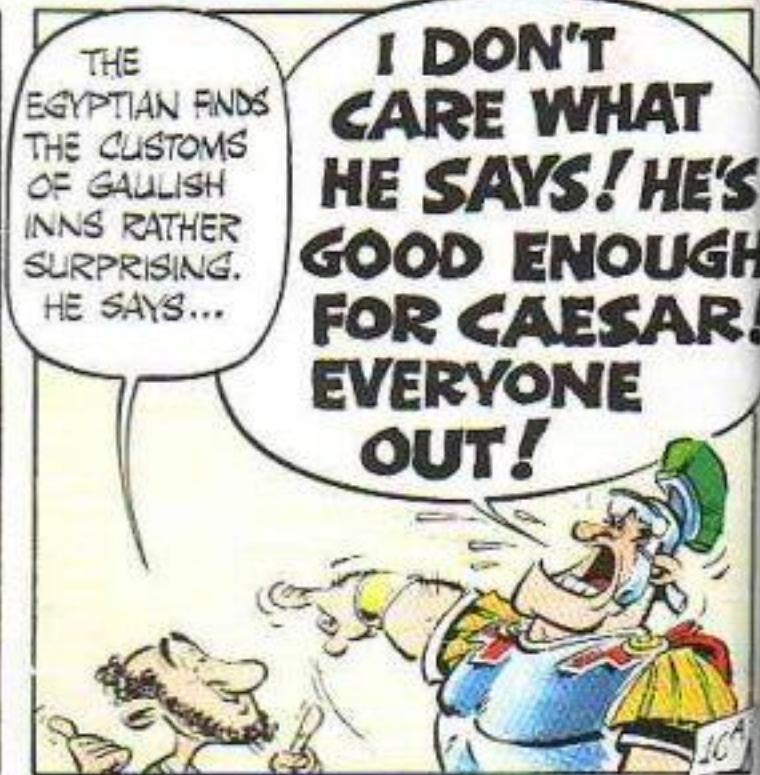
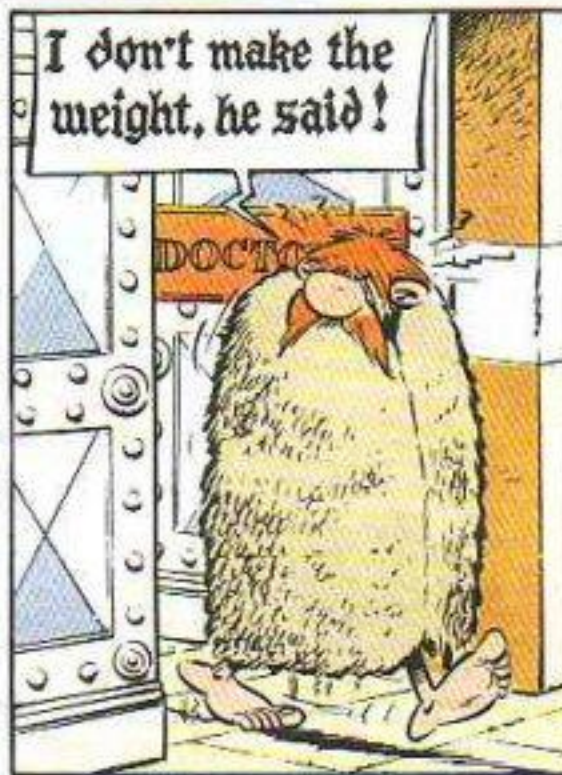
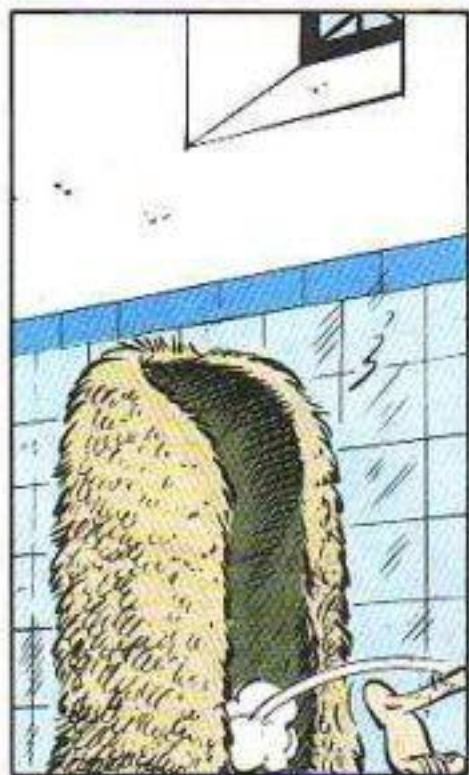
CENTURION! THE EGYPTIAN SAYS HE WANTS ONE, NOT TWO, BUT IT MUST LOOK ON TO THE STREET

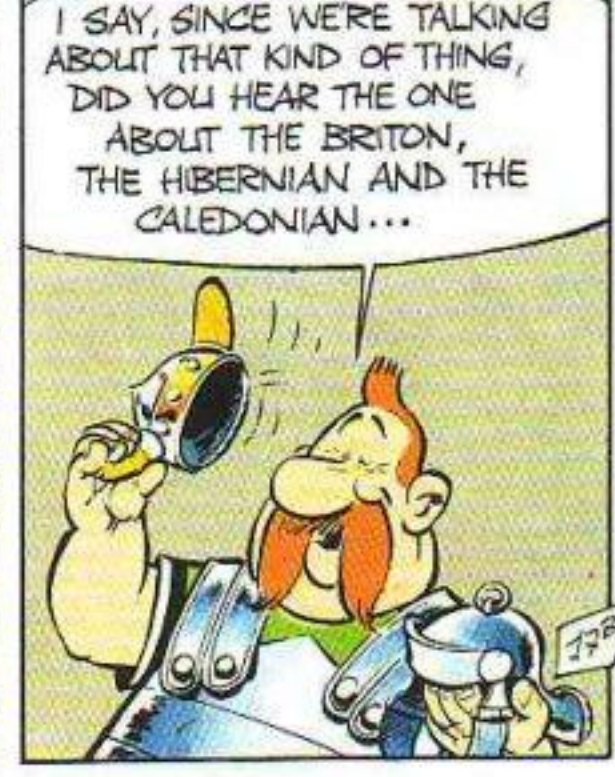
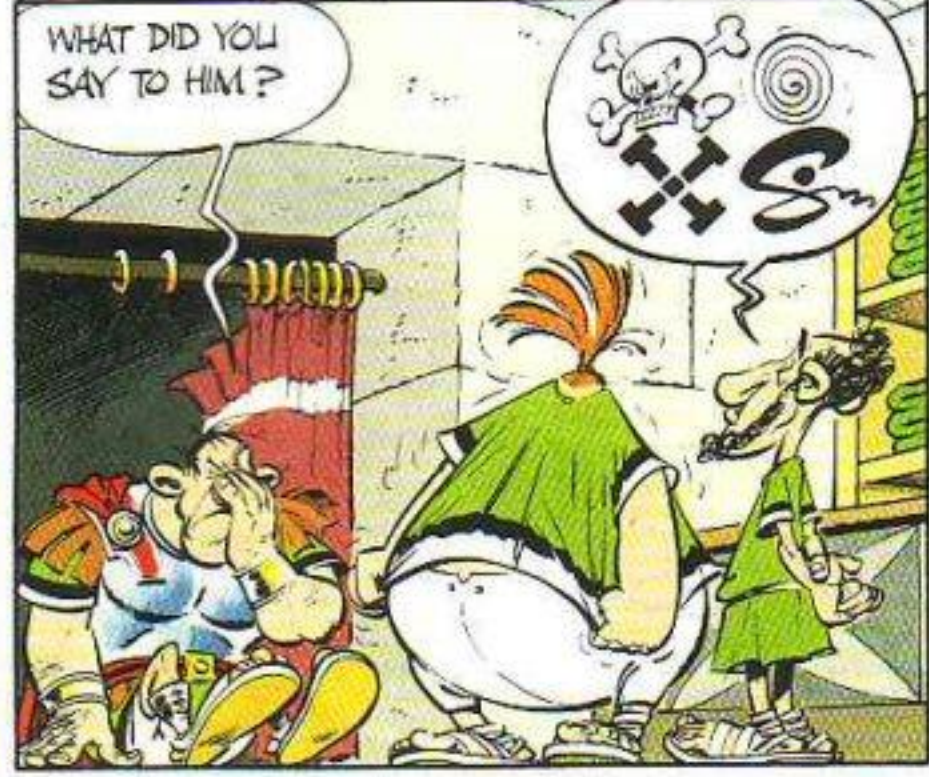
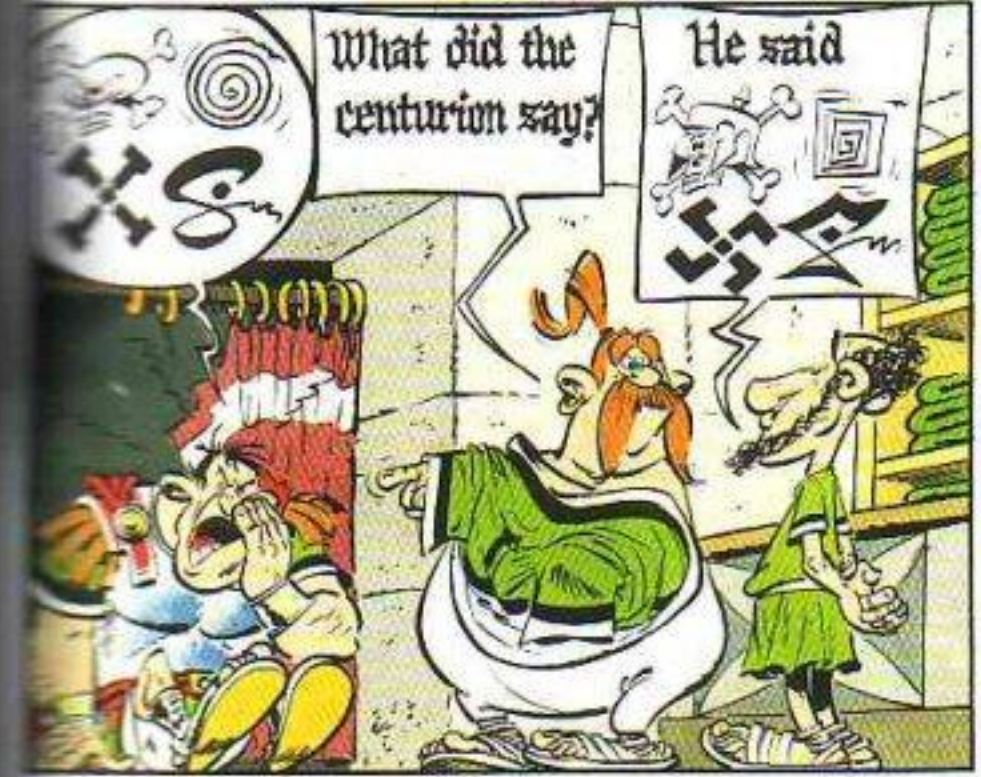
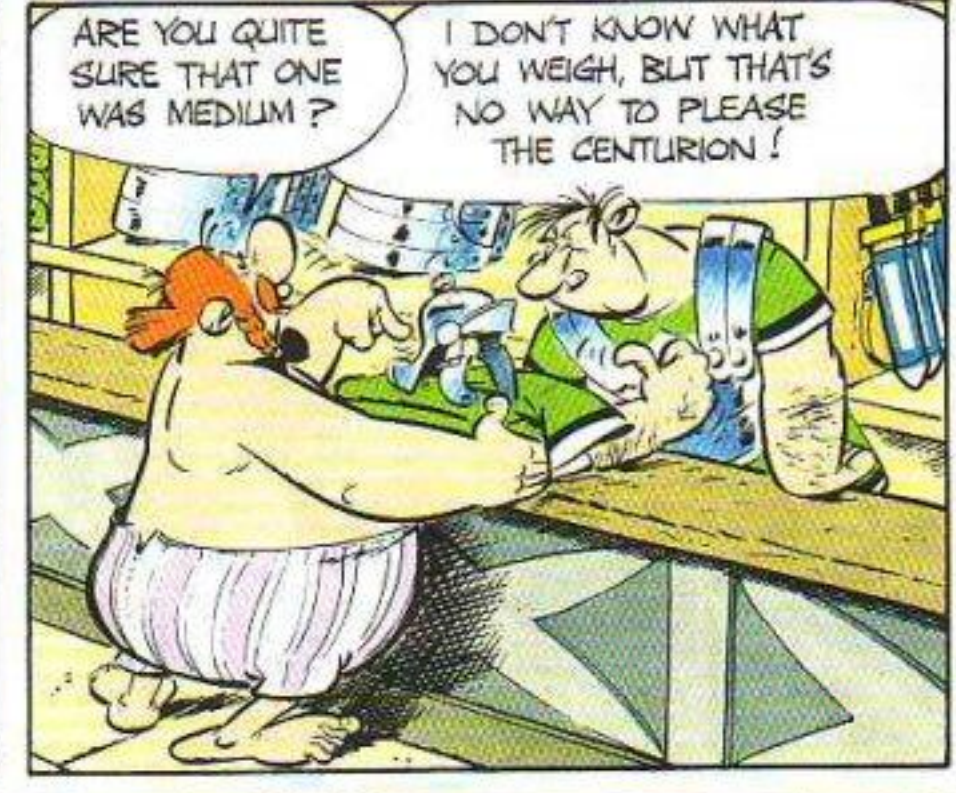
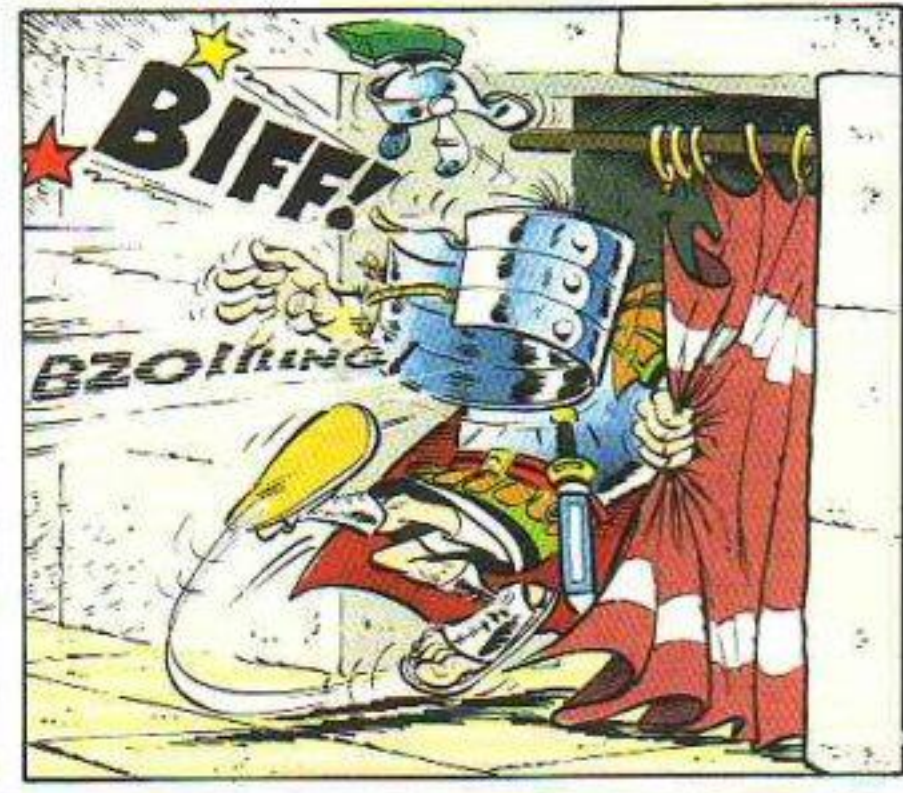
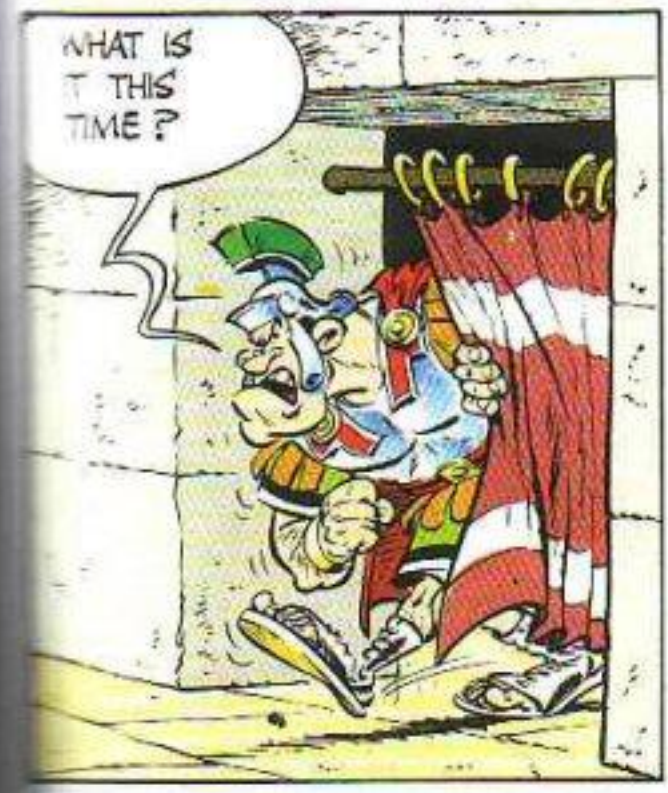
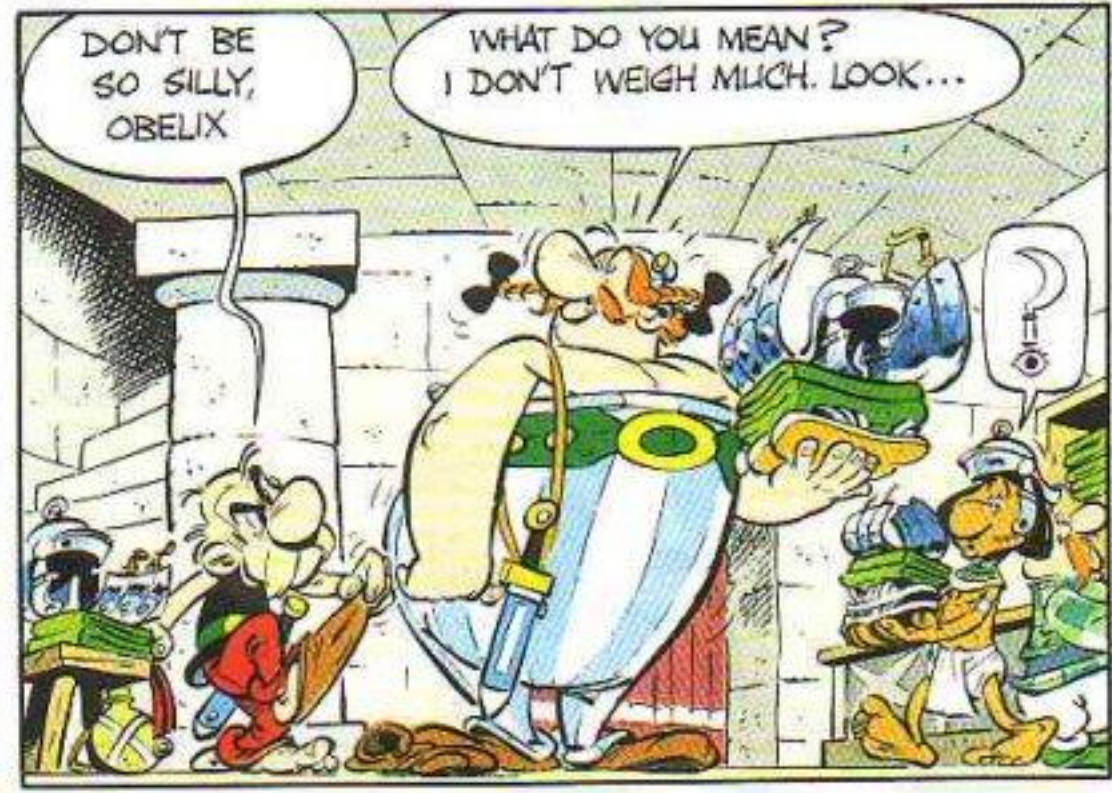
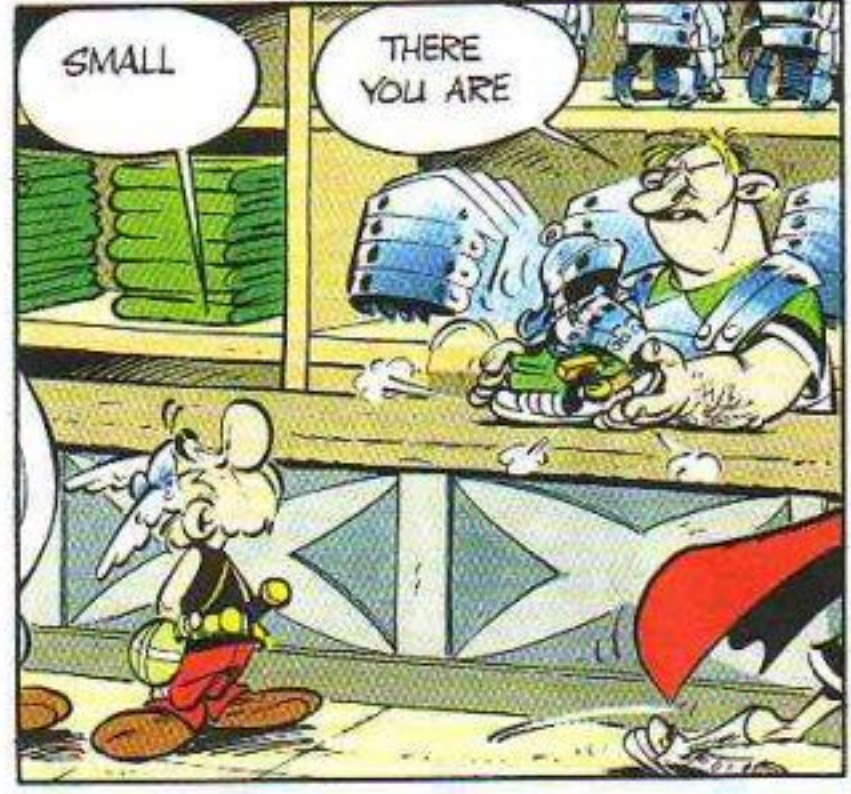
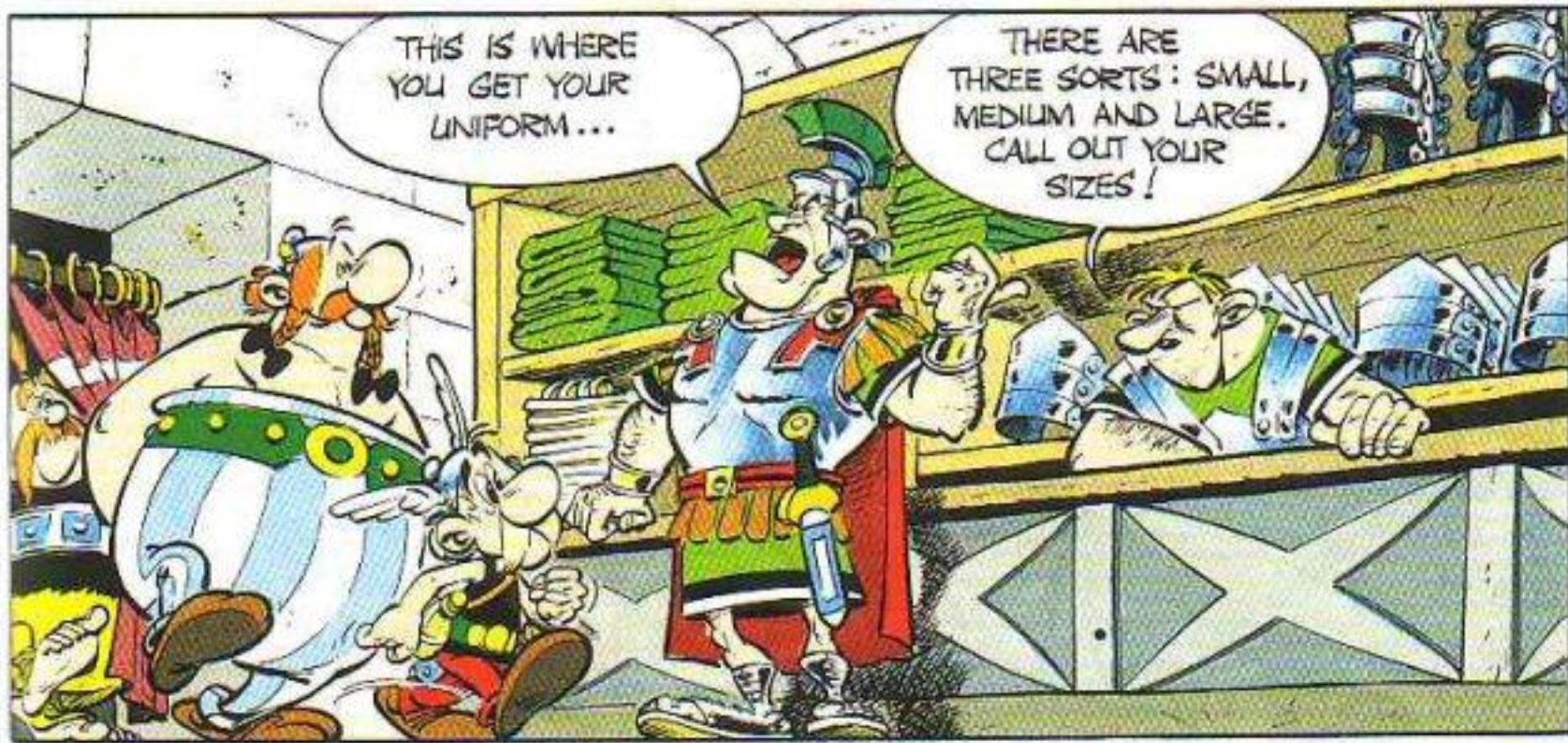


WHERE... WHERE WAS I?

YOU'D GOT TO ONE...

I THINK TWO COMES NEXT







NOW WE'RE GOING DOWN TO THE COURTYARD FOR A LITTLE TRAINING



WAIT A MINUTE! WE HAVEN'T FIXED OUR PAY YET!

?!



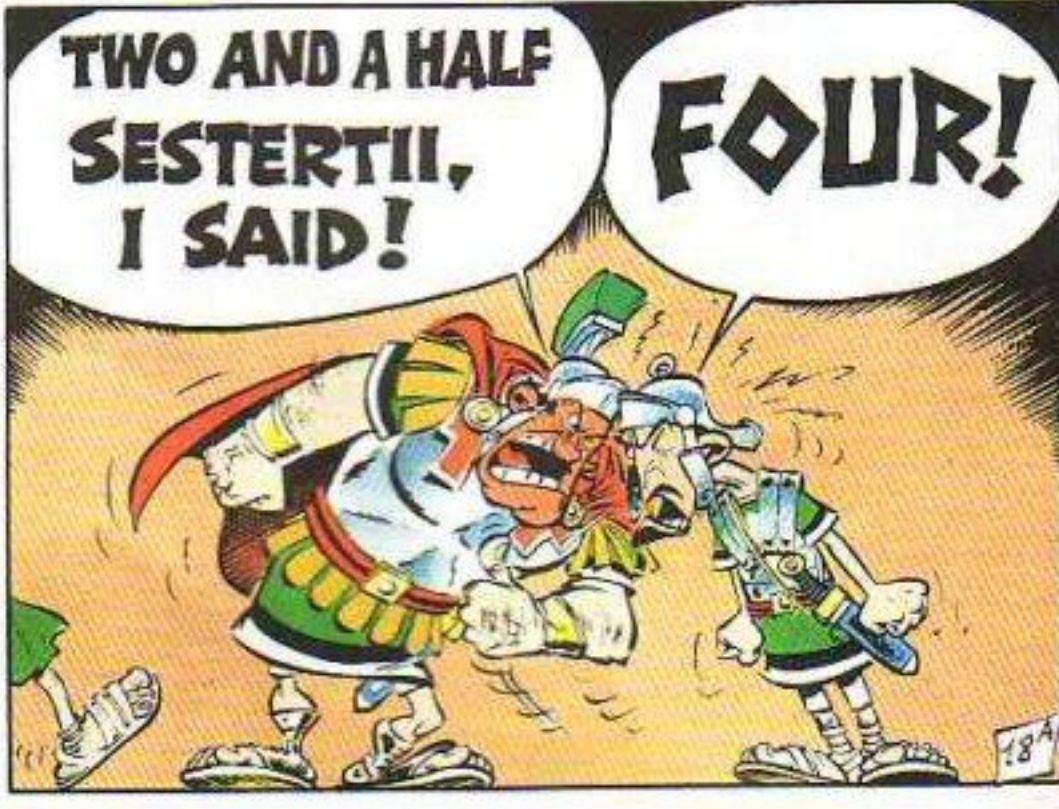
TWO AND A HALF SESTERTII, I SAID!

YOU MUST BE JOKING, BY HERMES!



WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?!

I KNOW WHERE I AM ALL RIGHT. WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS WHETHER IT'S WORTH STAYING



TWO AND A HALF SESTERTII, I SAID!

FOUR!



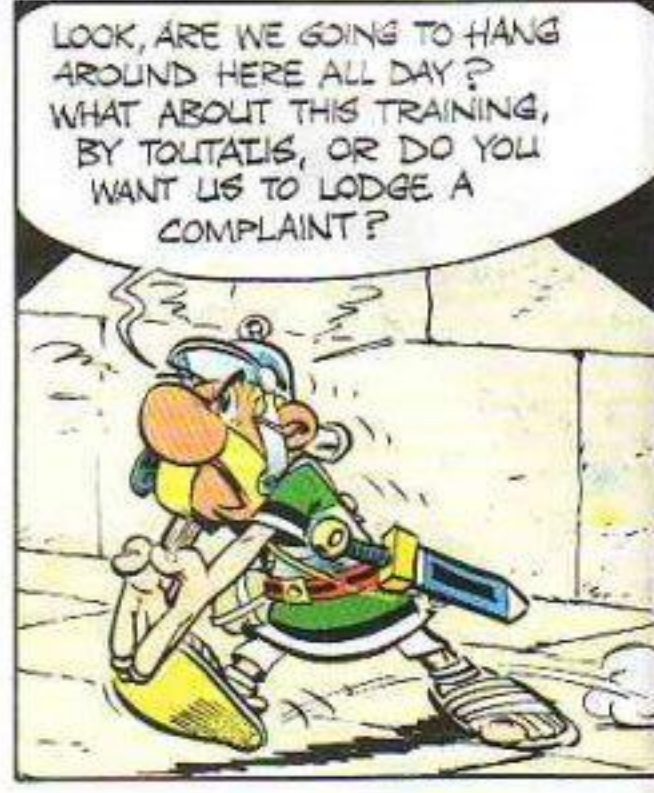
HE SAYS TWO SESTERTII IS THE MAXIMUM PRICE FOR THIS CLASS OF HOTEL

?!



HOW MUCH IS THAT IN NEW PENCE?!

NEW PENCE? WELL NOW, THAT COMES TO...



LOOK, ARE WE GOING TO HANG AROUND HERE ALL DAY? WHAT ABOUT THIS TRAINING, BY TOUTALIS, OR DO YOU WANT US TO LODGE A COMPLAINT?!



SOON AFTERWARDS...

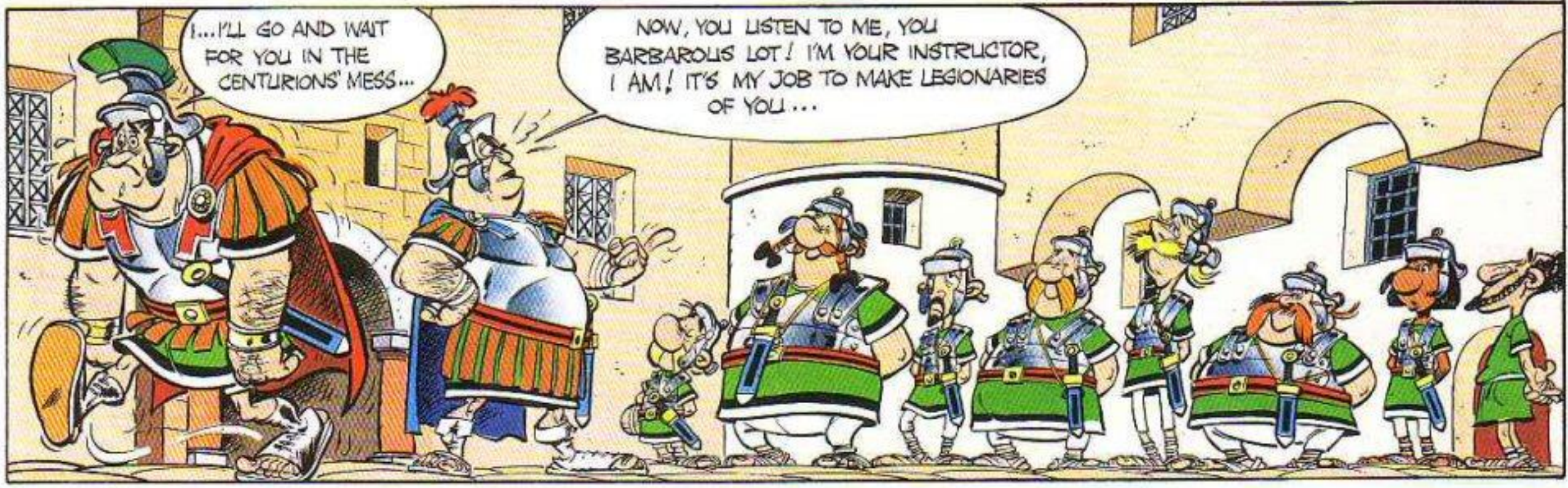
YOU CERTAINLY TOOK YOUR TIME, NEFARIUS PURPUS! WELL, SO THESE ARE THE NEW LEGIONARIES?!

FUNNY SORT OF CHAP, OUR CENTURION!!



YERRRRSSSS!

YOU KNOW WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM? IF YOU ASK ME, HE'S IN LOVE!



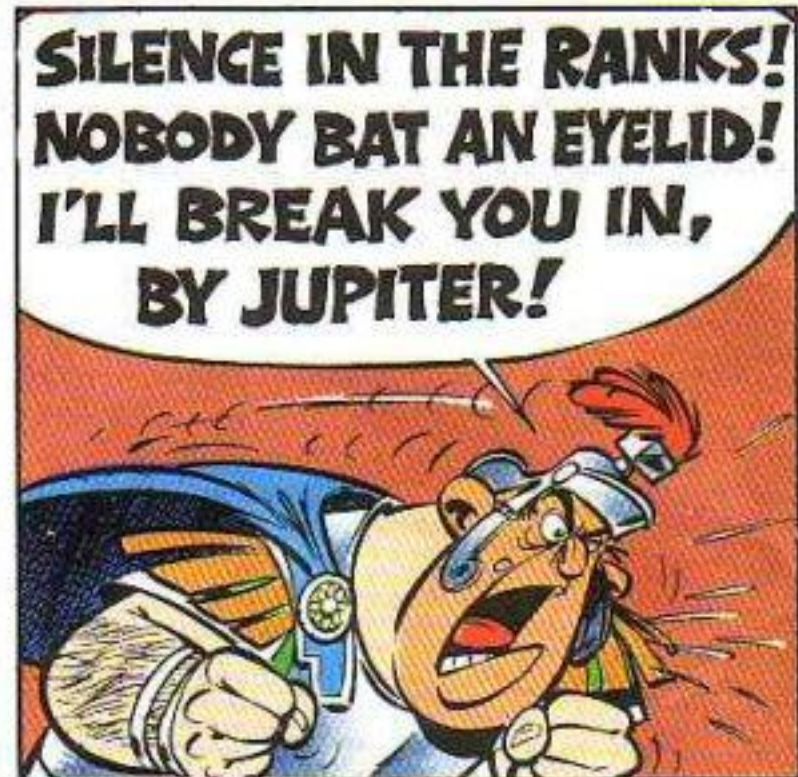
I...I'LL GO AND WAIT FOR YOU IN THE CENTURIONS' MESS...

NOW, YOU LISTEN TO ME, YOU BARBAROUS LOT! I'M YOUR INSTRUCTOR, I AM! IT'S MY JOB TO MAKE LEGIONARIES OF YOU...

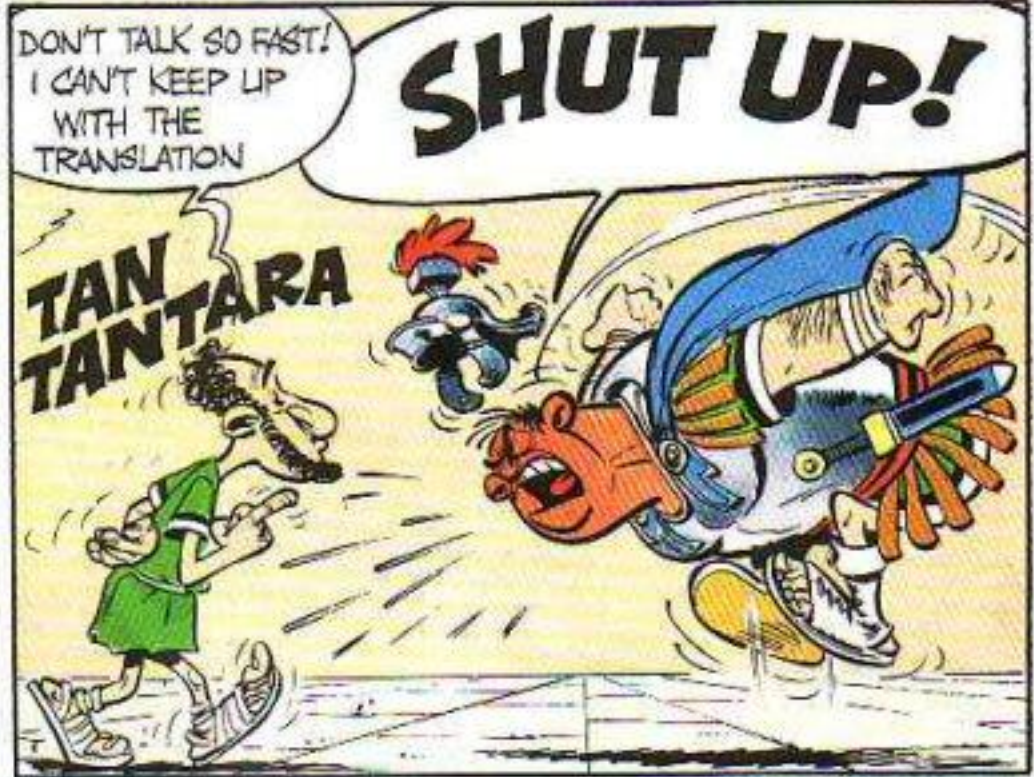


FINE, BUT GET ON WITH IT! WE'RE IN A HURRY!

WHAT?



SILENCE IN THE RANKS! NOBODY BAT AN EYELID! I'LL BREAK YOU IN, BY JUPITER!



DON'T TALK SO FAST! I CAN'T KEEP UP WITH THE TRANSLATION

SHUT UP!

TAN TANTARA



AS FOR YOU, CLEVER...

SSH! CAN'T YOU SEE YOU'RE DISTURBING THE POOR TRUMPETER?

TANTAN TARA



TANTAN TARA

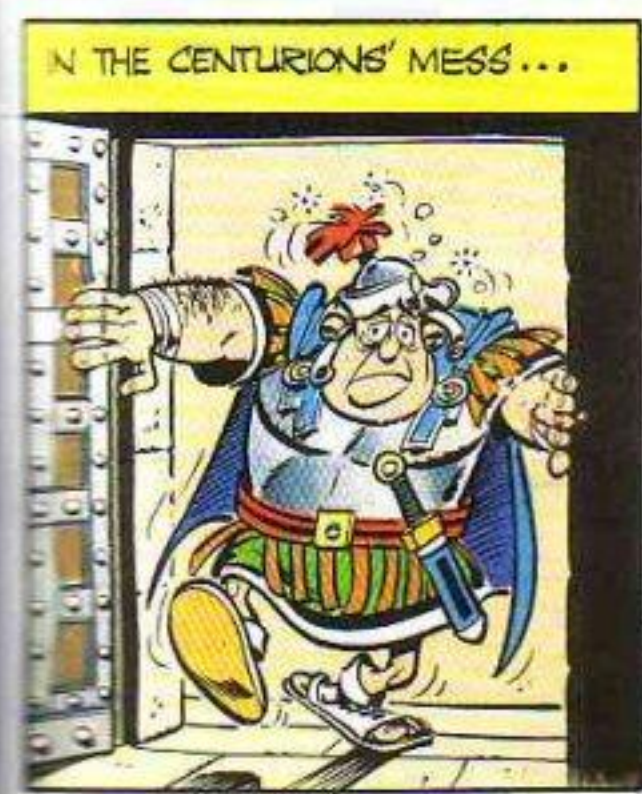
GRUBS UP!

JUST IN THE NICK OF TIME! I'M HUNGRY!

GRUB?

Grub

***?



IN THE CENTURIONS' MESS...



HELLO THERE, DUBIUS STATUS. TAKEN YOUR NEW RECRUITS IN HAND?



YERRRSSS!

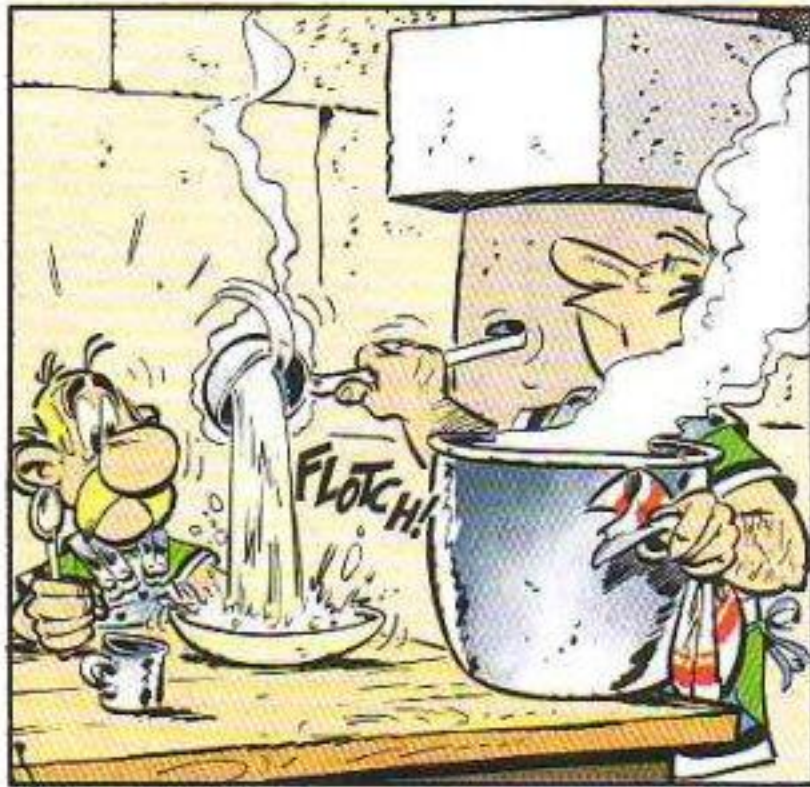
IN LOVE, IS HE?



THE EGYPTIAN WANTS TO SEE THE MENU

I SAY, DO YOU THINK THEY'LL HAVE BOAR?

DON'T GET ANY IDEAS! THE STRONGER THE ARMY, THE WORSE ITS FOOD IS. THAT'S WHAT KEEPS THE MEN IN A NASTY MOOD!

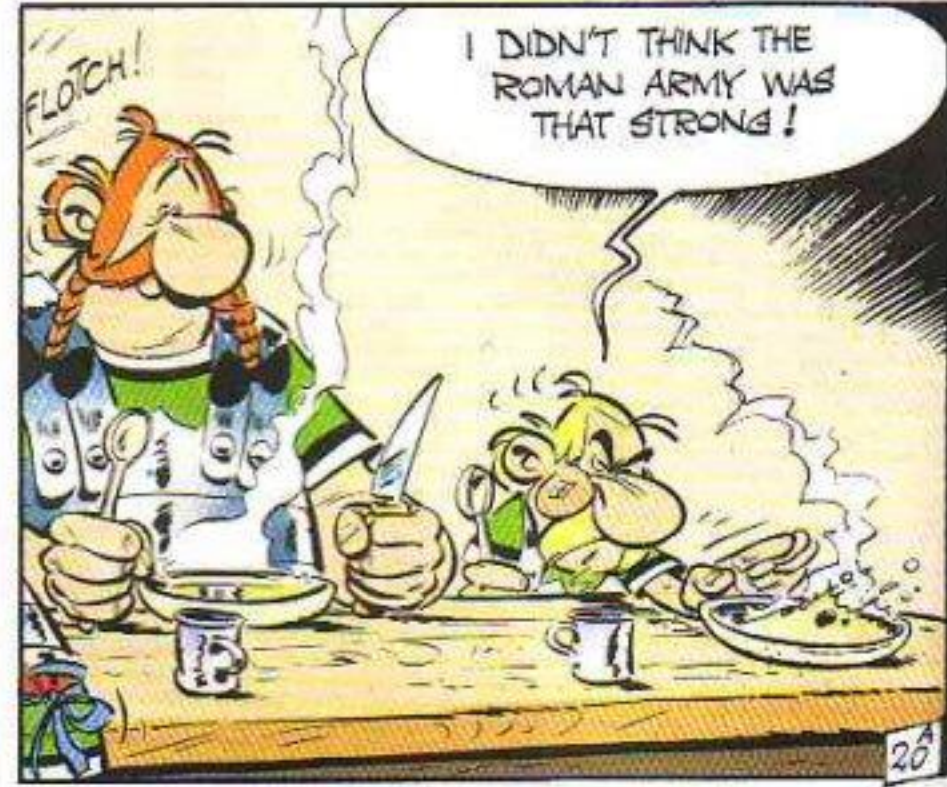


FLOUCH!



PLOTCH!

SLOP!



I DIDN'T THINK THE ROMAN ARMY WAS THAT STRONG!

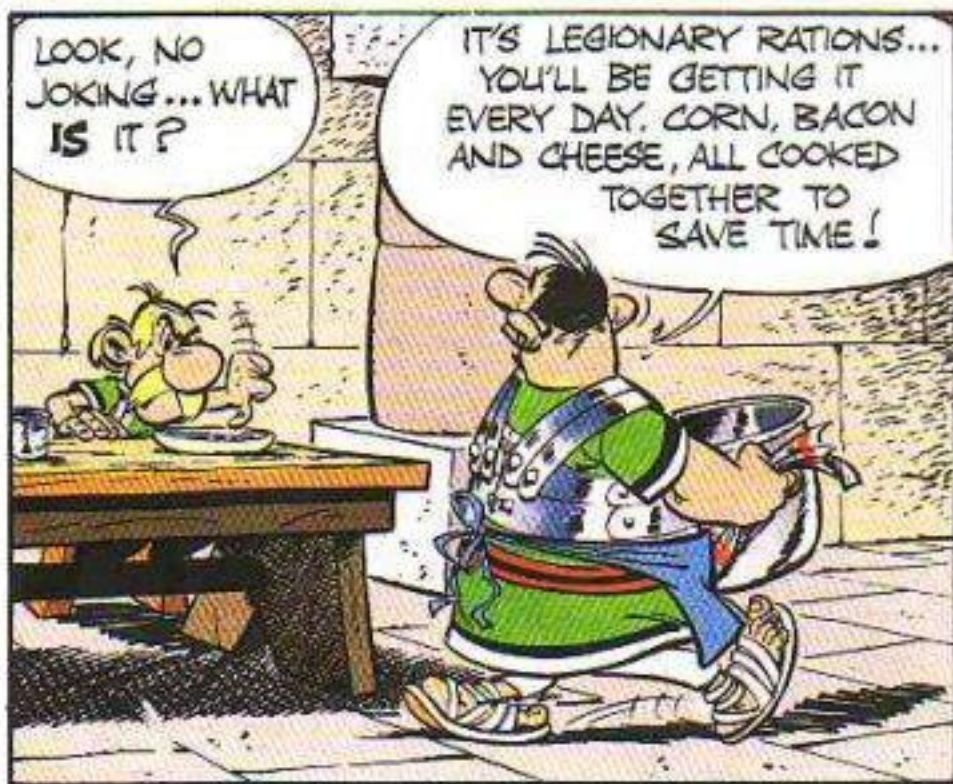


THE EGYPTIAN WANTS TO SEE THE MANAGER

I'M NOT STAYING FOR LESS THAN SIX SESTERTII A DAY!

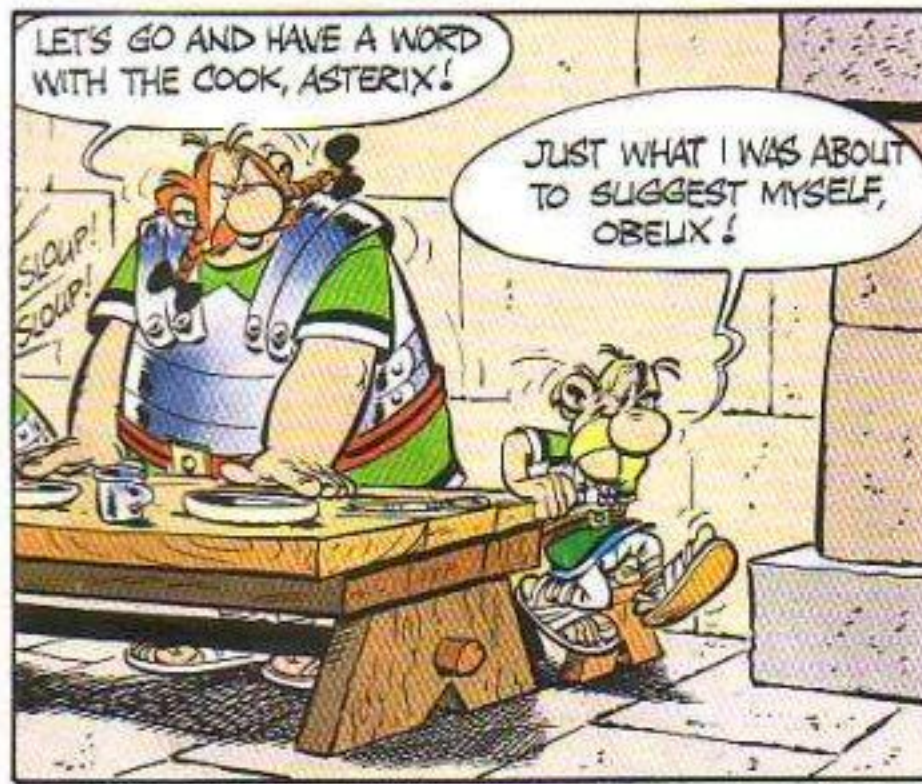
POSITIVELY GOTHIC, THIS FOOD!

At home people would be quartered for less!



LOOK, NO JOKING... WHAT IS IT?

IT'S LEGIONARY RATIONS... YOU'LL BE GETTING IT EVERY DAY. CORN, BACON AND CHEESE, ALL COOKED TOGETHER TO SAVE TIME!



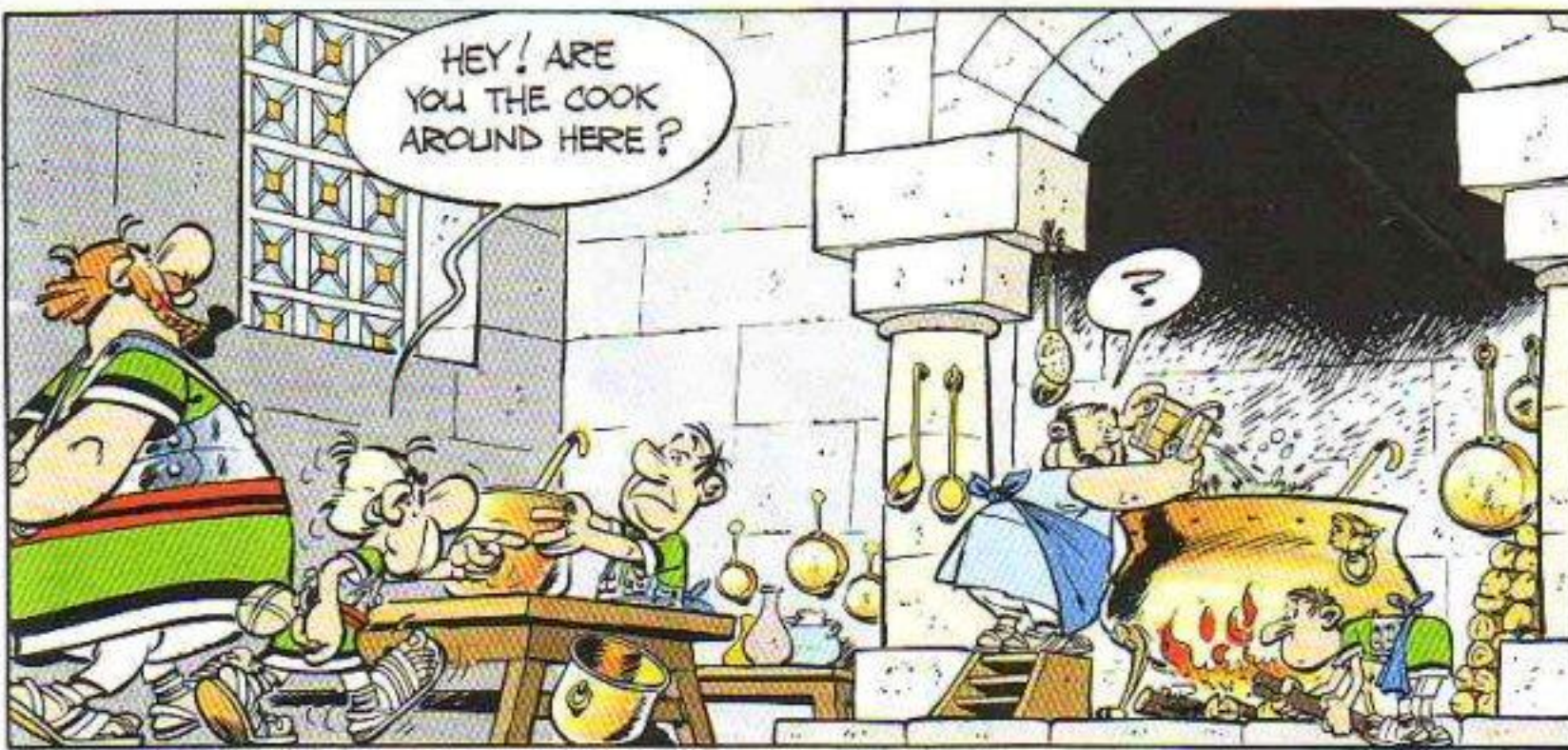
LET'S GO AND HAVE A WORD WITH THE COOK, ASTERIX!

JUST WHAT I WAS ABOUT TO SUGGEST MYSELF, OBELIX!



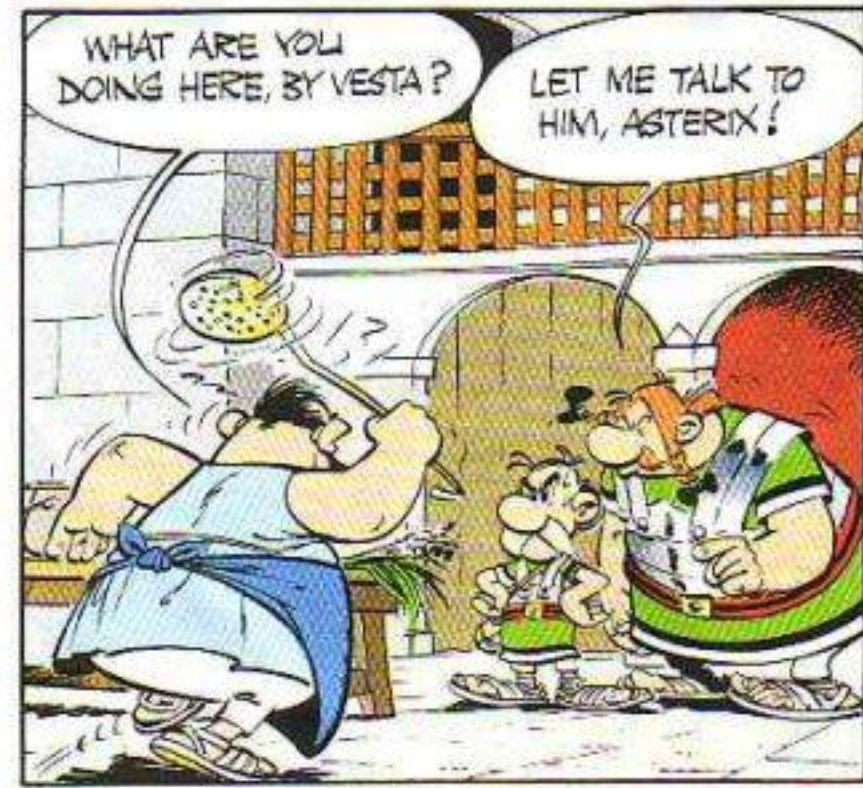
DELICIOUS! REALLY SPLENDID, DON'T YOU KNOW!

?



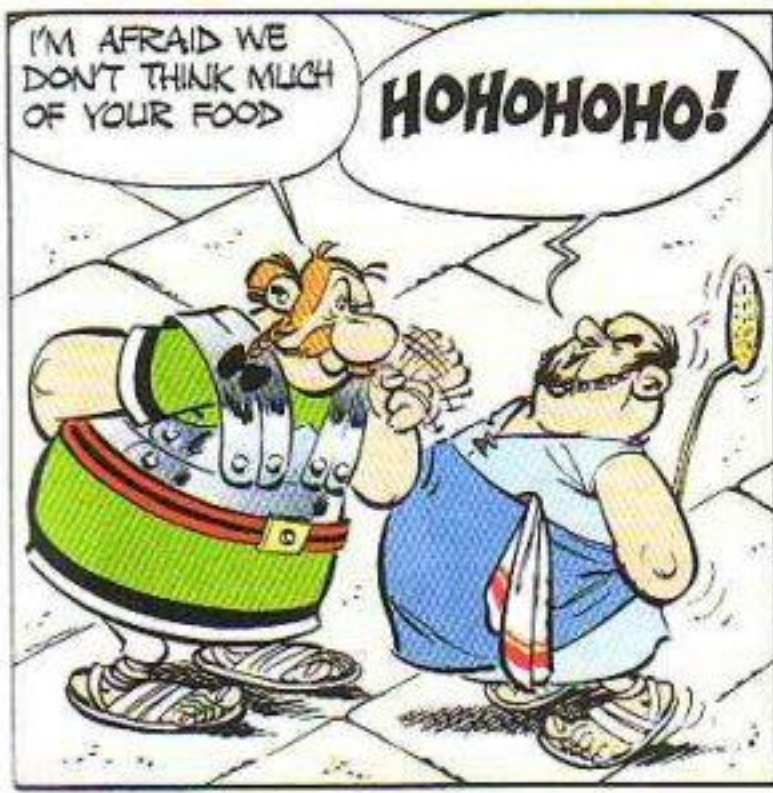
HEY! ARE YOU THE COOK AROUND HERE?

?



WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, BY VESTA?

LET ME TALK TO HIM, ALEXIS!



I'M AFRAID WE DON'T THINK MUCH OF YOUR FOOD

HOHOHOHO!



I SUPPOSE YOU'D LIKE SOME FANCY COOKING?

THAT'S RIGHT! WILD BOAR!

AND PLENTY OF IT! WE NEED ALL THE STRENGTH WE CAN GET!



FANCY CAKES TOO? I BET YOU LIKE FANCY CAKES?

HM... WHAT DO YOU THINK, OBELIX? HOW ABOUT A FEW CAKES?

YES! OH, YES!

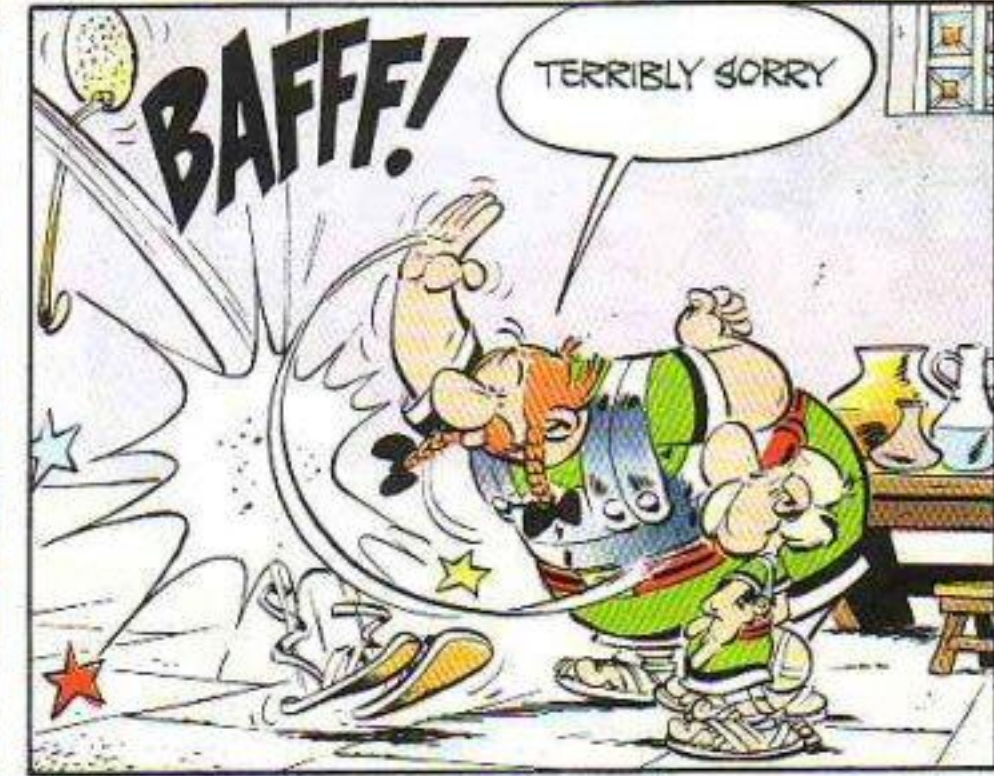


YOU GET OUT, OR I'LL HAVE YOU IN THE COOLER!



CAN I BE POLITE TO HIM, ALEXIS?

GO RIGHT AHEAD, OBELIX!



BAFFF!

TERRIBLY SORRY



SPLOSH!

NOW, ROMAN, LISTEN TO ME! ANY TIME WE'RE NOT SATISFIED WITH OUR FOOD WE'LL BE PAYING YOU ANOTHER VISIT! COME ON OBELIX!



HAVE THEY GONE?

YES



RIGHT! YOU'D BETTER GO TO MARKET TO BUY WILD BOAR AND FLOUR AND EGGS AND SUGAR AND CRYSTALLIZED FRUITS. BEFORE YOU GO, PUT OUT THE FIRE UNDER MY CAULDRON

RIGHT! YOU'VE BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE 1ST LEGION, 3RD COHORT, 2ND MANIPLE, 1ST CENTURY. YOU HAVE TO REPEAT THAT WHEN PRESENTING YOURSELVES TO A SUPERIOR OFFICER!

THAT COOK IS CRAZY!

DD YOU REALLY ENJOY YOUR LUNCH?

YES, RATHER!

YOU, SHORTIE! PRESENT YOURSELF!

WHAT?



OH... ASTERIX THE GAUL!

AND I'M OBELIX! THE OTHERS ARE OUR PALS. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

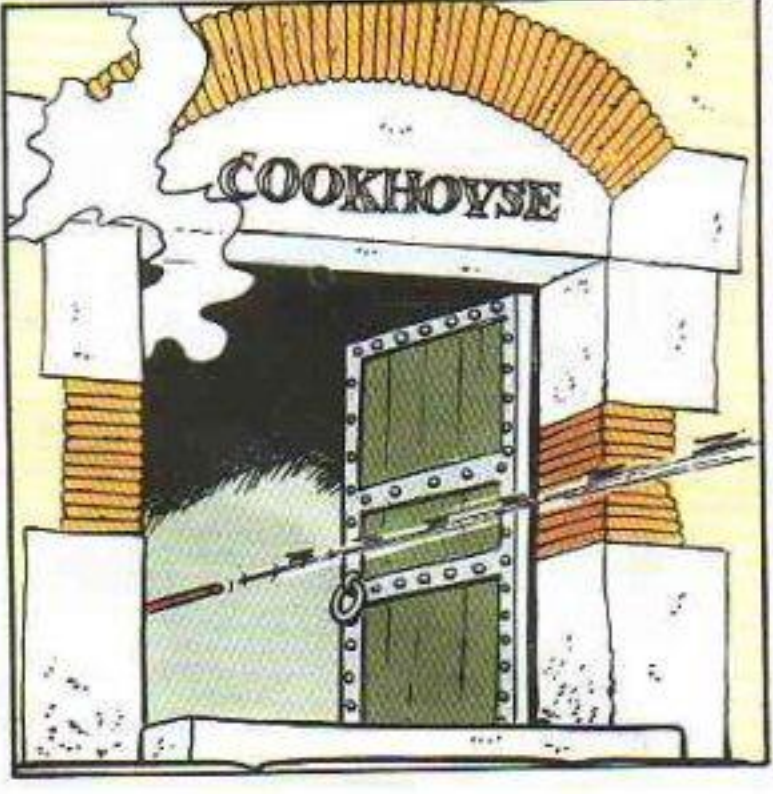
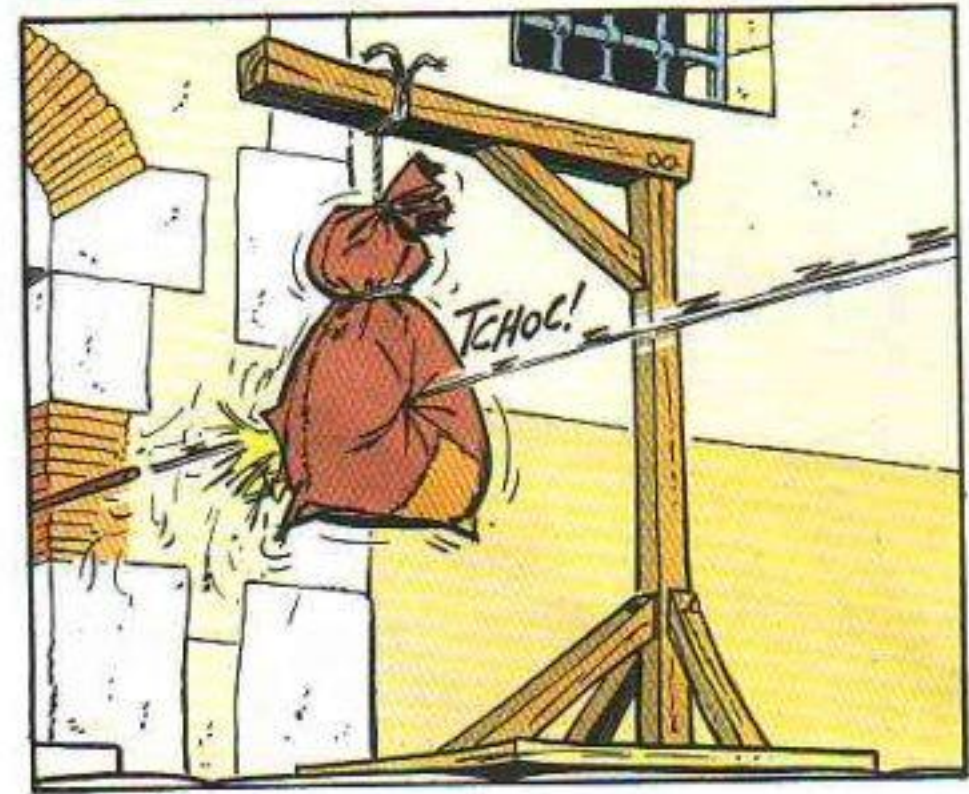
INSTRUCTOR DUBIUS STATUS, 1ST LEGION, 3RD COHORT...

GRRR... GET BACK INTO LINE, WILL YOU ... GRR ... GET BACK!

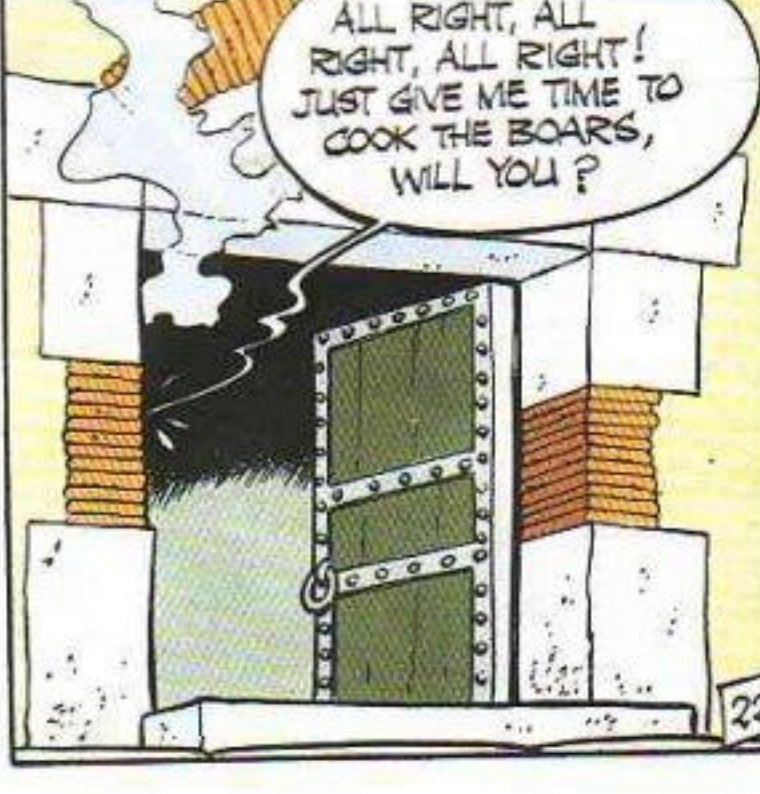


NOW WE DO PILUM DRILL. YOU TRY TO HIT THAT TARGET AT THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SQUARE. YOU START, LEGIONARY OBELIX

RIGHT!



ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT! JUST GIVE ME TIME TO COOK THE BOARDS, WILL YOU?





ER... NOW WE HAVE GLADIUS DRILL...



THESE ARE ONLY PRETEND SWORDS, OF COURSE, MADE OF WOOD... COME ON!



WELL, COME ON! DEFEND YOURSELF!

BUT IF IT'S ONLY MADE OF WOOD...



DO AS YOU'RE TOLD, OBELIX! WE'RE ONLY WASTING TIME!!

OH, VERY WELL!



THESE ROMANS ARE CRAZY!

TCHAC!

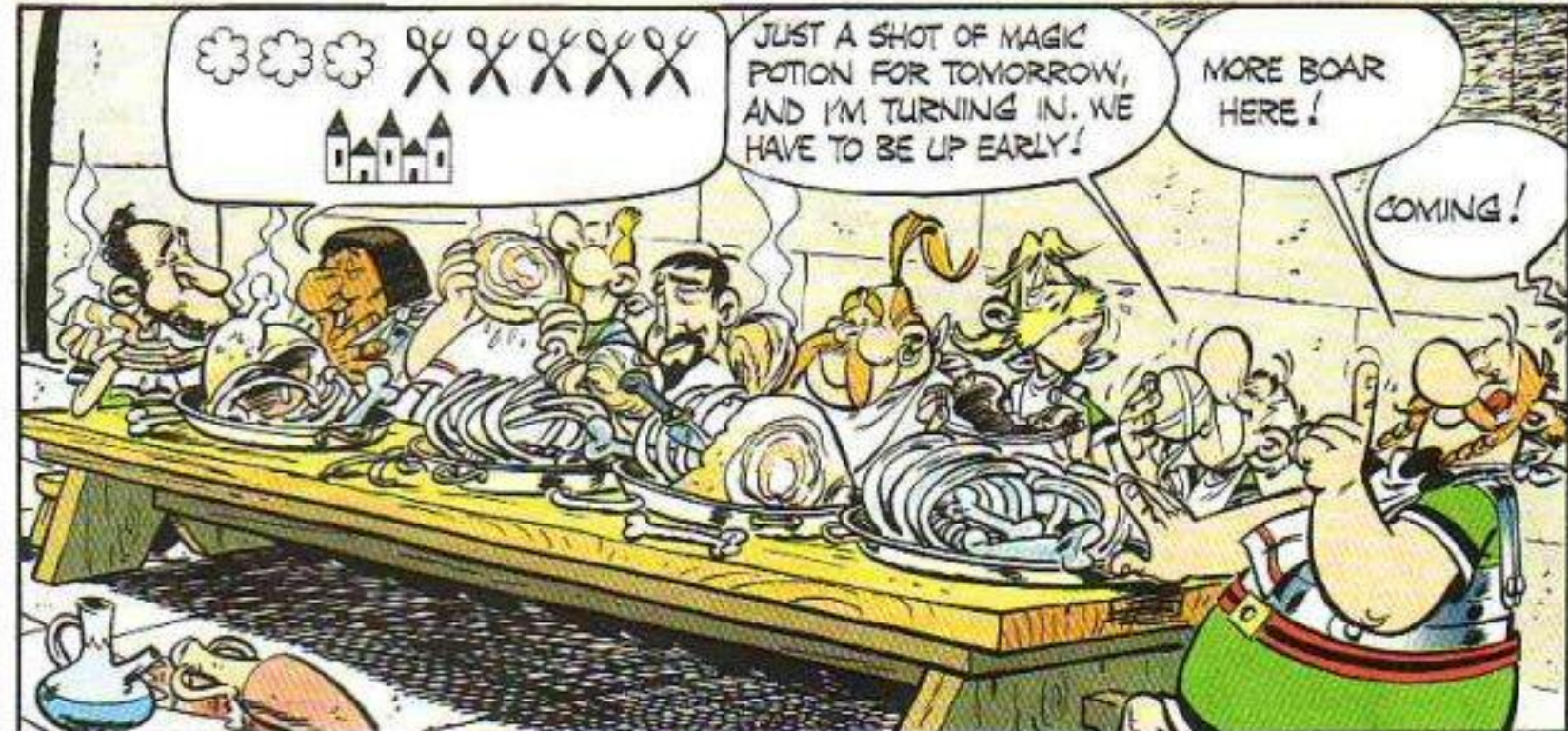


OH NO! IF THIS GOES ON IT'LL NEVER BE READY, AND IT'LL TASTE PRETTY FUNNY TOO!



THAT EVENING...

CHEER UP, DUBILIS STATUS! THE RECRUITS WILL HAVE TO BE UP AT THE CRACK OF DAWN FOR A ROUTE MARCH WITH SACKS FULL OF ROCKS. THAT'LL KEEP THEM QUIET...



✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂

JUST A SHOT OF MAGIC POTION FOR TOMORROW, AND I'M TURNING IN. WE HAVE TO BE UP EARLY!

MORE BOAR HERE!

COMING!



THAT'S A NICE THOUGHT! THEY WON'T BE QUITE SO SMART WHEN I GET THEM OUT OF BED AT DAWN TOMORROW!



BUT ONLY A FEW SHORT HOURS LATER...

WAAKEY, WAAKEY!



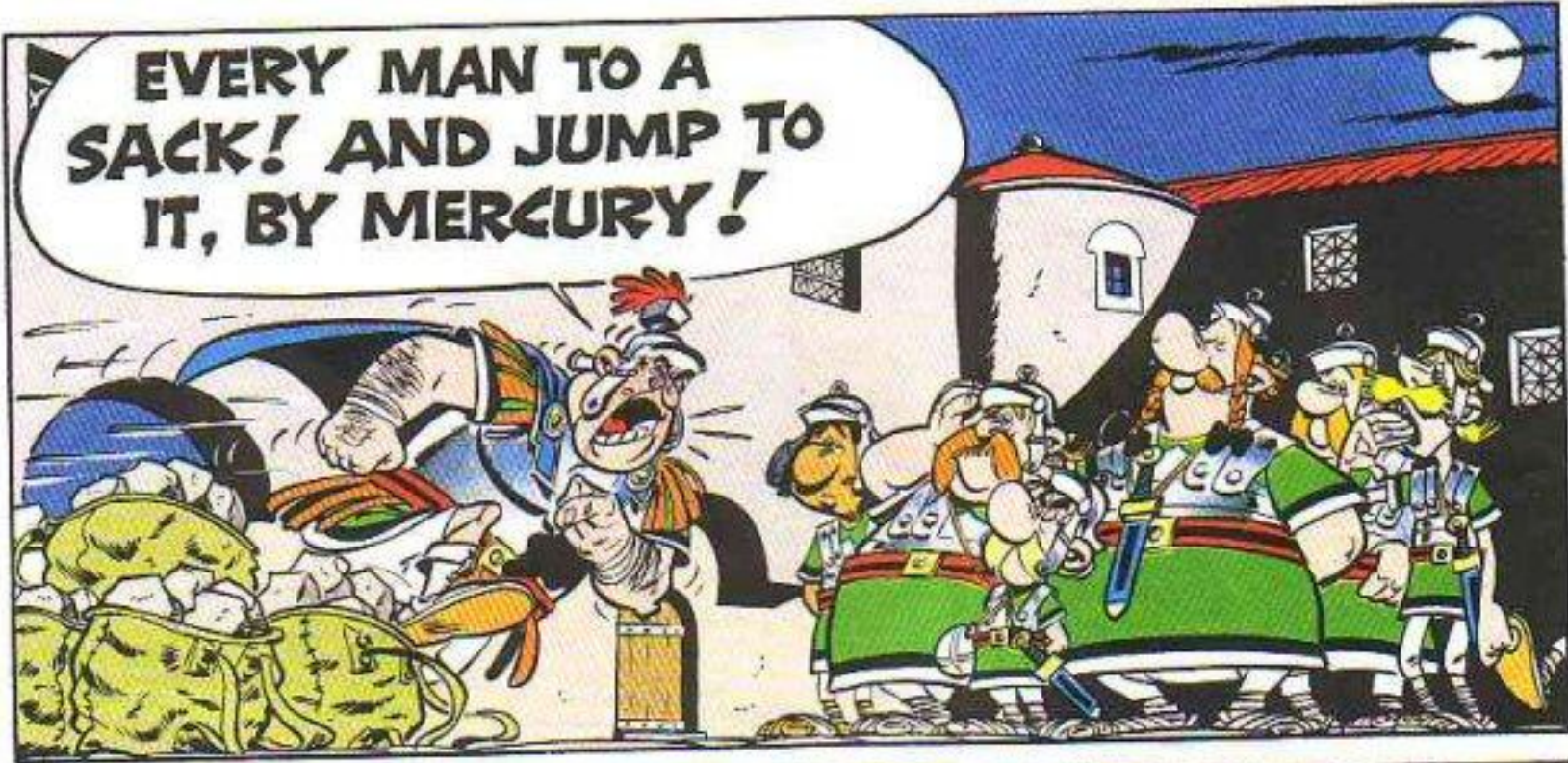
RISE AND SHINE!

COME ON EVERYONE!

C-C-COMING!



SO THOSE BARBARIANS ARE IN A HURRY? THEY'LL SOON CHANGE THEIR TUNE, BY JUPITER!



EVERY MAN TO A SACK! AND JUMP TO IT, BY MERCURY!



WHO'S HE CALLING?

A PORTER



THAT'S ENOUGH OF THAT! GET MOVING!



He says the staff at this hotel should be given the sack!

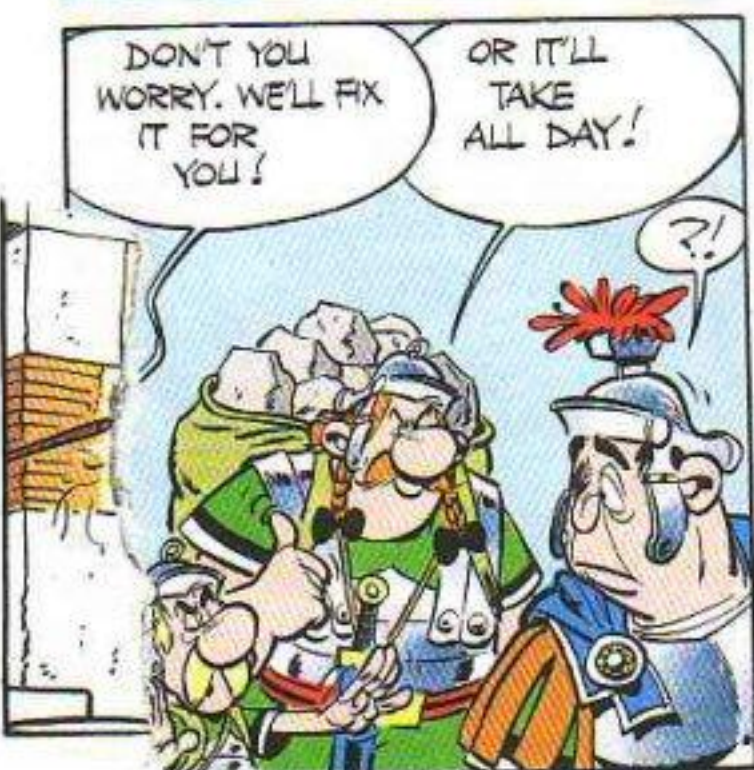


BELENOS, APOLLO AND RA ARE NOT KIND, AND THE SUN BEATS DOWN ON THE NEW LEGIONARIES...

WE CAN'T GO ON LIKE THIS!

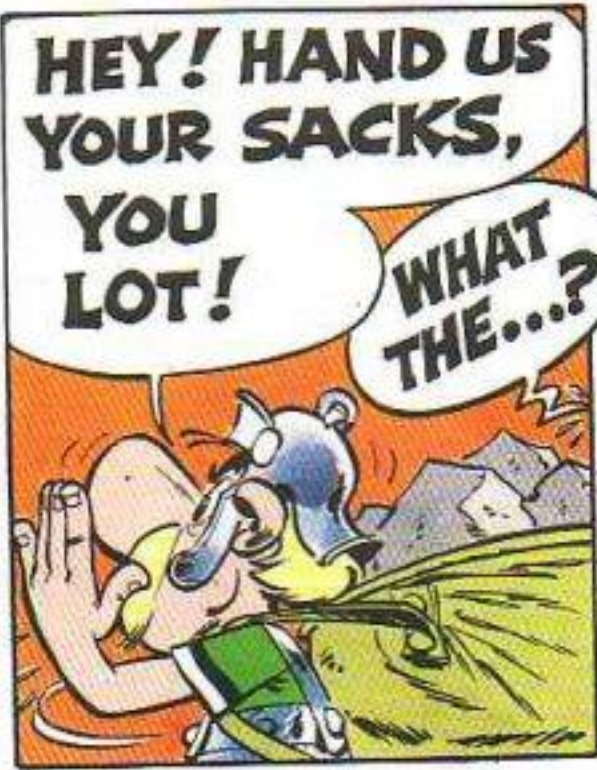
WE CERTAINLY CAN'T!

AHA! LESS FOOLING AROUND NOW, EH? DRAGGING OUR FEET NOW, ARE WE? LOST OUR VIS COMICA, HMM?



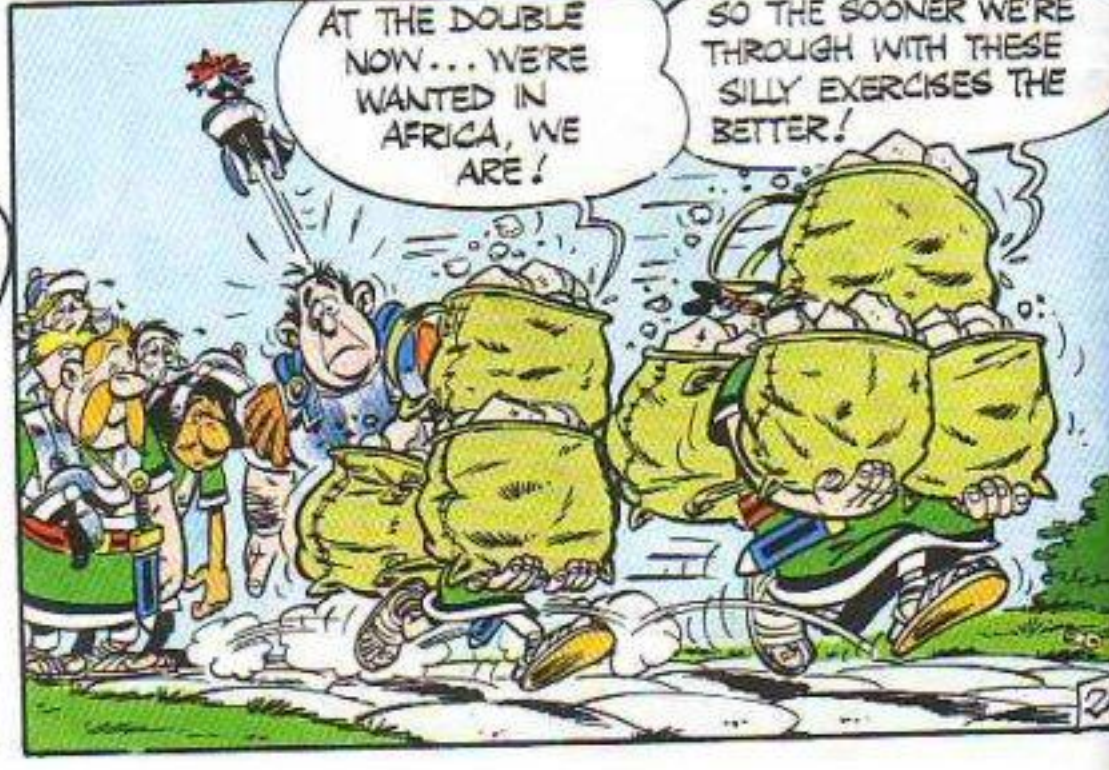
DON'T YOU WORRY. WE'LL FIX IT FOR YOU!

OR IT'LL TAKE ALL DAY!



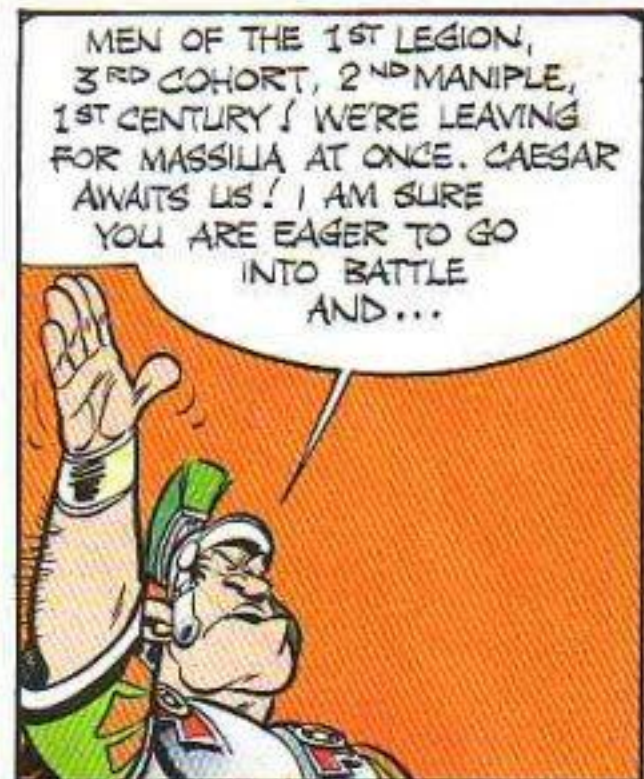
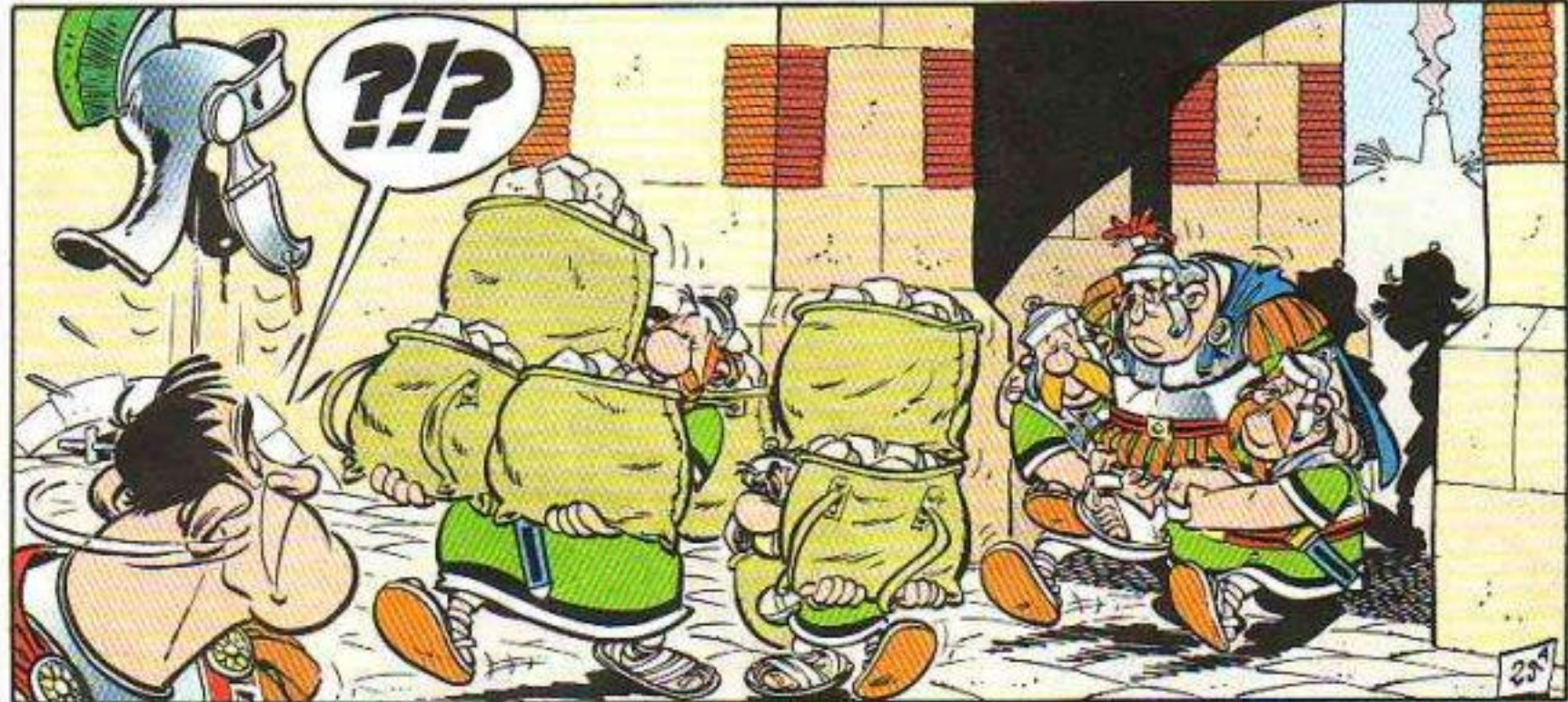
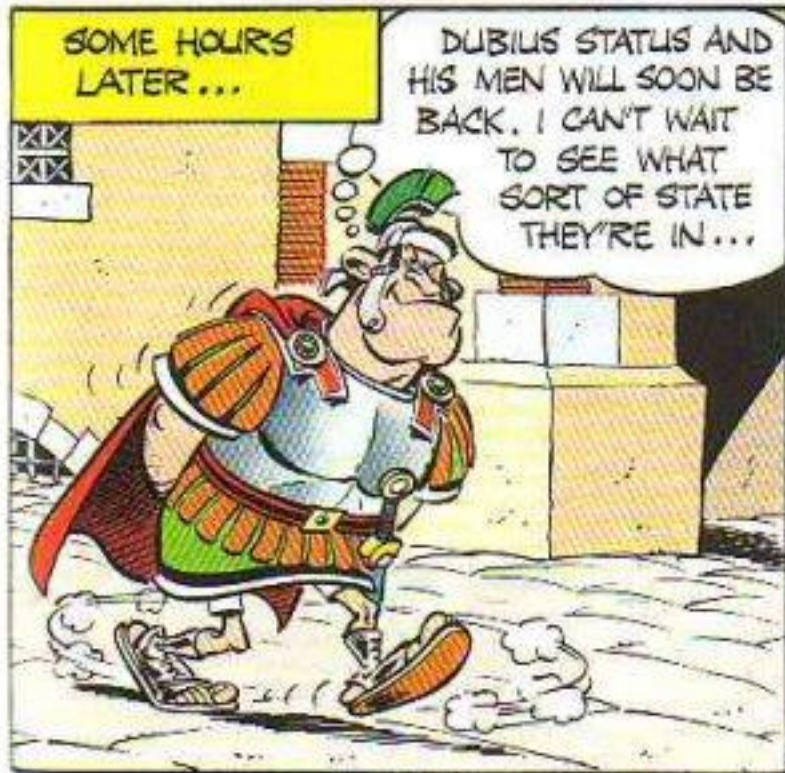
HEY! HAND US YOUR SACKS, YOU LOT!

WHAT THE...?



AT THE DOUBLE NOW... WE'RE WANTED IN AFRICA, WE ARE!

SO THE SOONER WE'RE THROUGH WITH THESE SILLY EXERCISES THE BETTER!



UNDER THE COMMAND OF CENTURION NEFARIUS PURPLUS, THE MEN OF THE 1ST LEGION, 3RD COHORT, 2ND MANIPLE, 1ST CENTURY, LEAVE CONDATUM...



I THINK WE'VE BEEN GOING LONG ENOUGH... WE'LL STOP FOR A BIT...



1ST LEGION, 3RD COHORT, 2ND MANIPLE, 1ST CENTURY, **HALT!** WE'RE HAVING A BREAK!



THE QUICKER WE FIND TRAGICOMIX THE BETTER FOR PANACEA...

I DON'T WANT HER TO WORRY...



HEY! YOU TWO! I SAID WE'RE HAVING A BREAK!

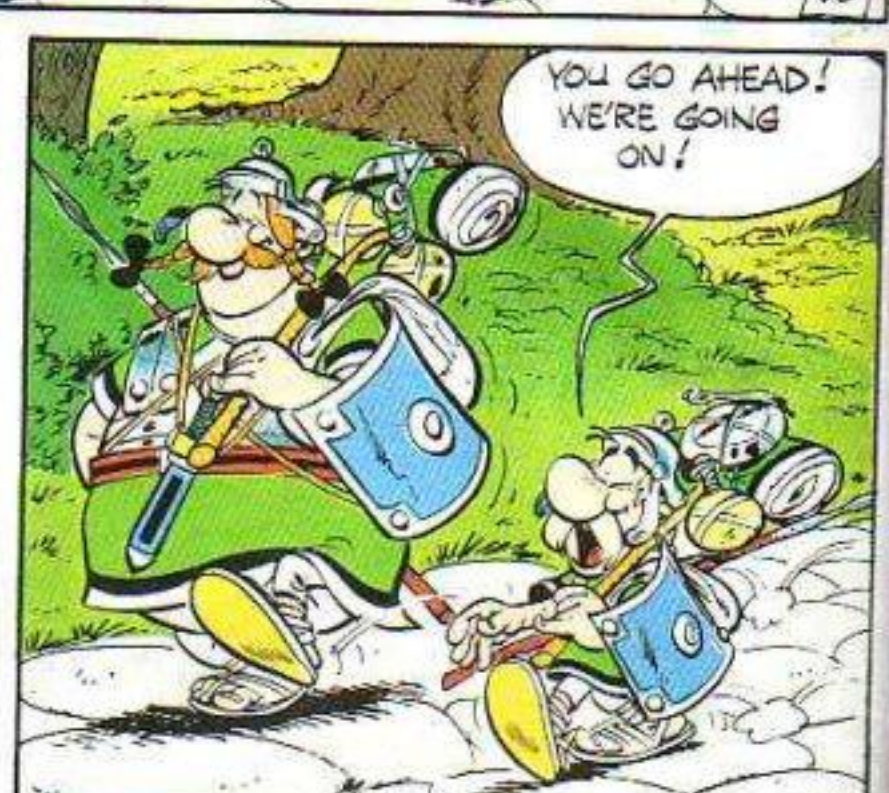
D'YOU THINK IT'LL BE EASY TO FIND TRAGICOMIX?

LET'S HOPE SO OBELIX!



NO TIME! COME ON! COME ON!

BUT I'M GIVING THE ORDERS AROUND HERE! THIS IS A BREAK! HEY, THIS IS A BREAK...



YOU GO AHEAD! WE'RE GOING ON!



THAT WAS A GOOD ONE, THAT WAS!

WELL, HOW'S THIS FOR ATTIC SALT? OUR CENTURION'S ZEALOUS!

THAT'D LAY THEM IN THE ISLES, OLD BOY!

I'm not sure just how to put that in Gothic and Egyptian, but I'll do my best...

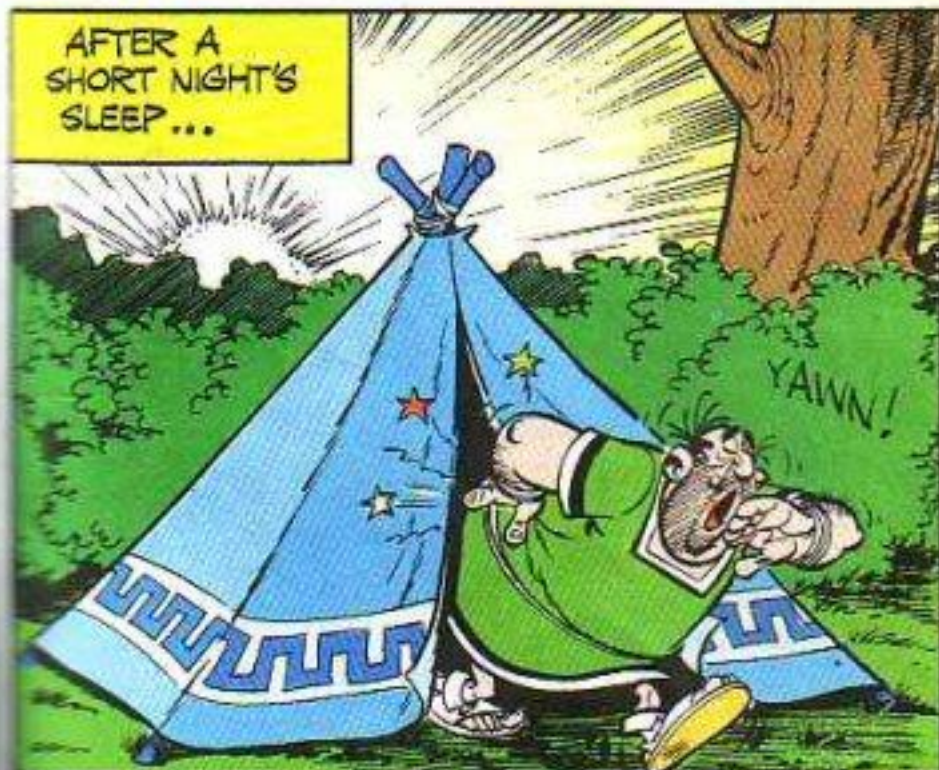
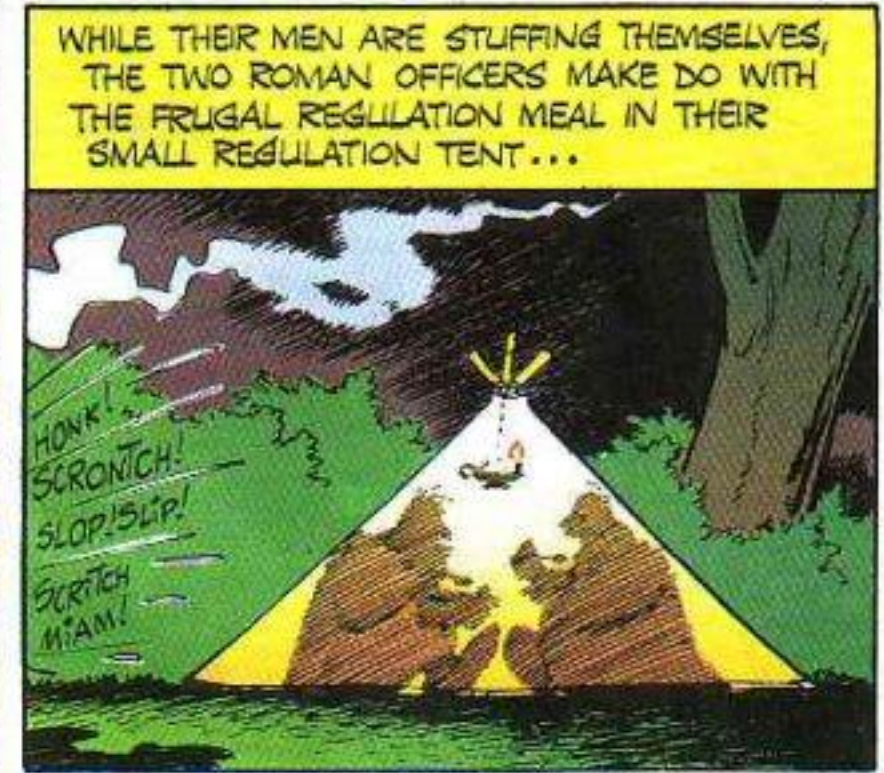
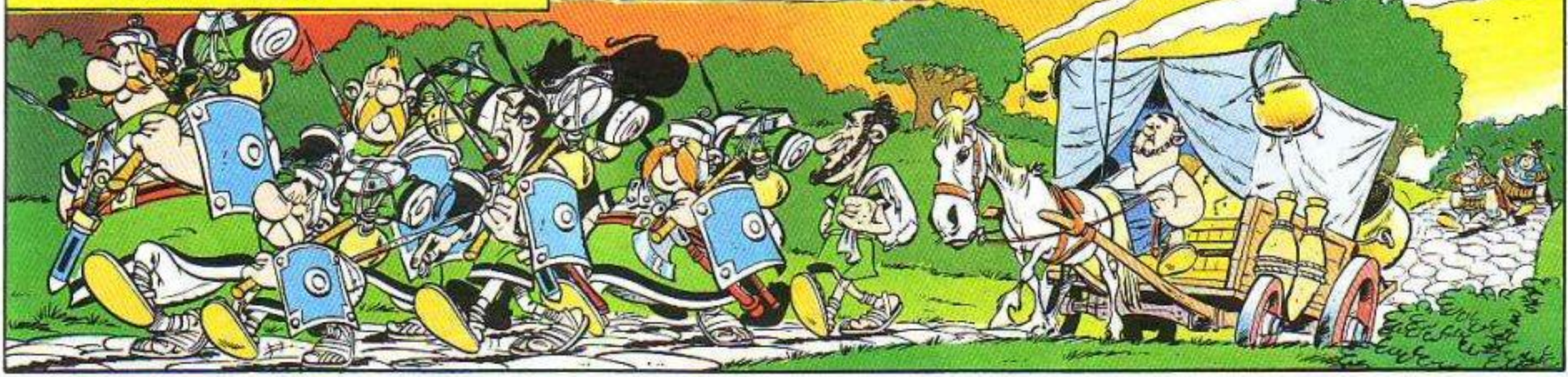
!!!

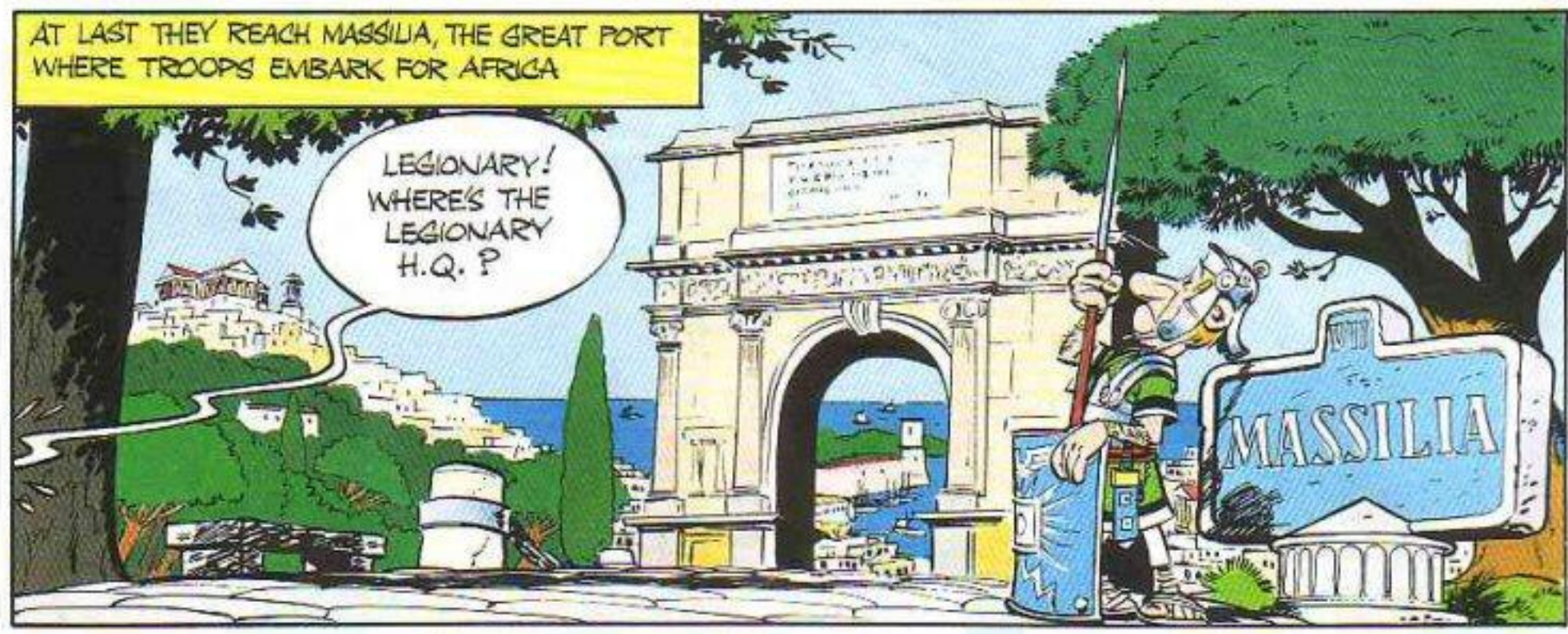
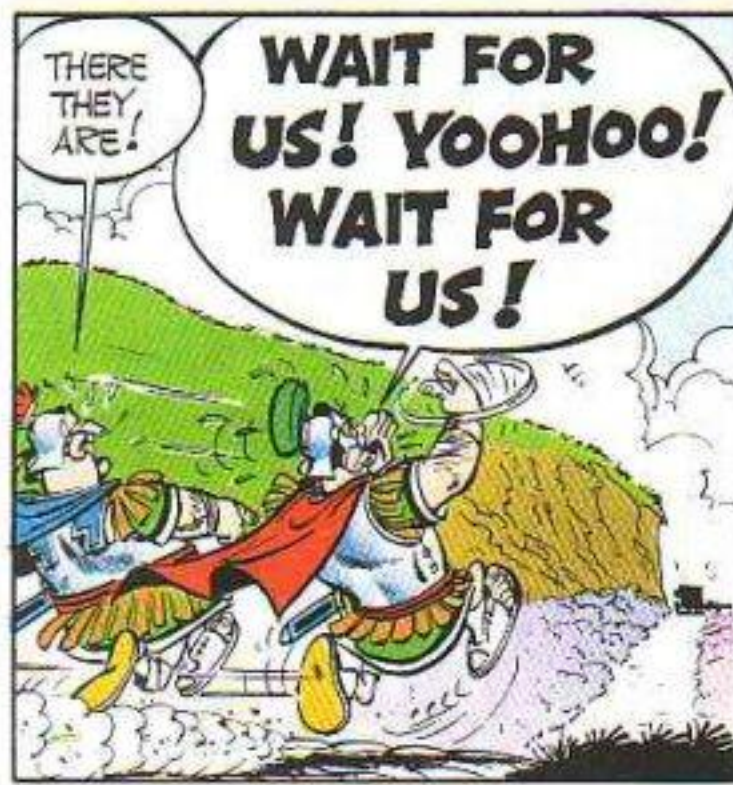


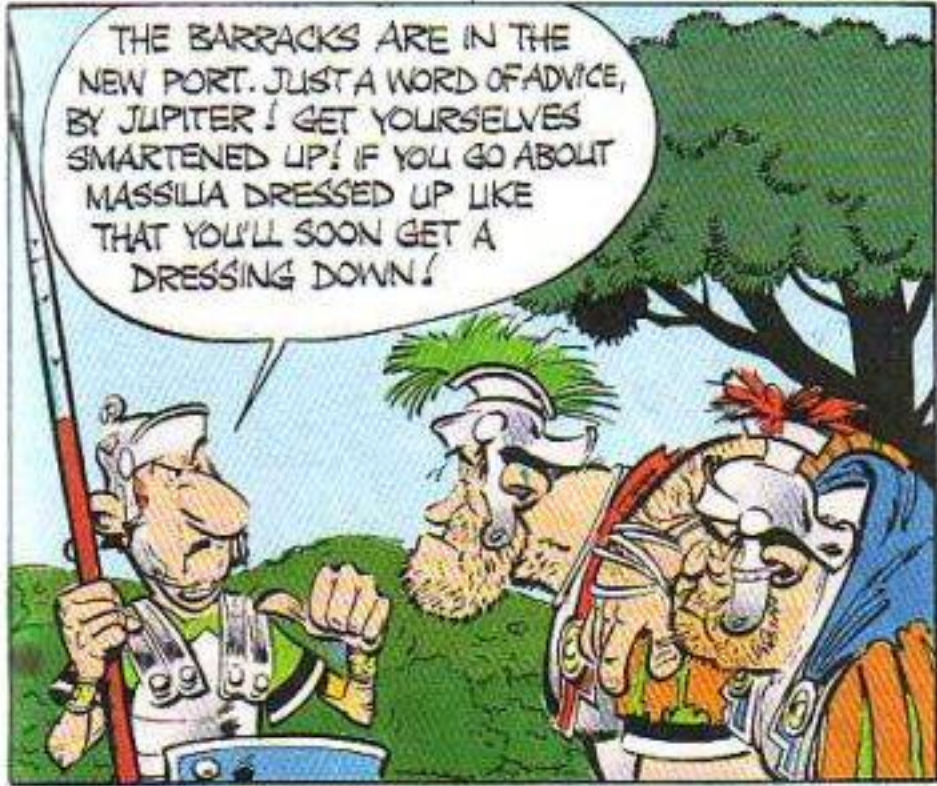
CRAZY! THEY'RE CRAZY! THEY'RE ACTUALLY EAGER TO GO INTO BATTLE!

PAF!

THE COLUMN OF THE 1ST LEGION, 3RD COHORT, 2ND MANIPLE, 1ST CENTURY IS STILL ON THE GO, BUT HAS UNDERGONE A SLIGHT MODIFICATION AS TO MARCHING ORDER...

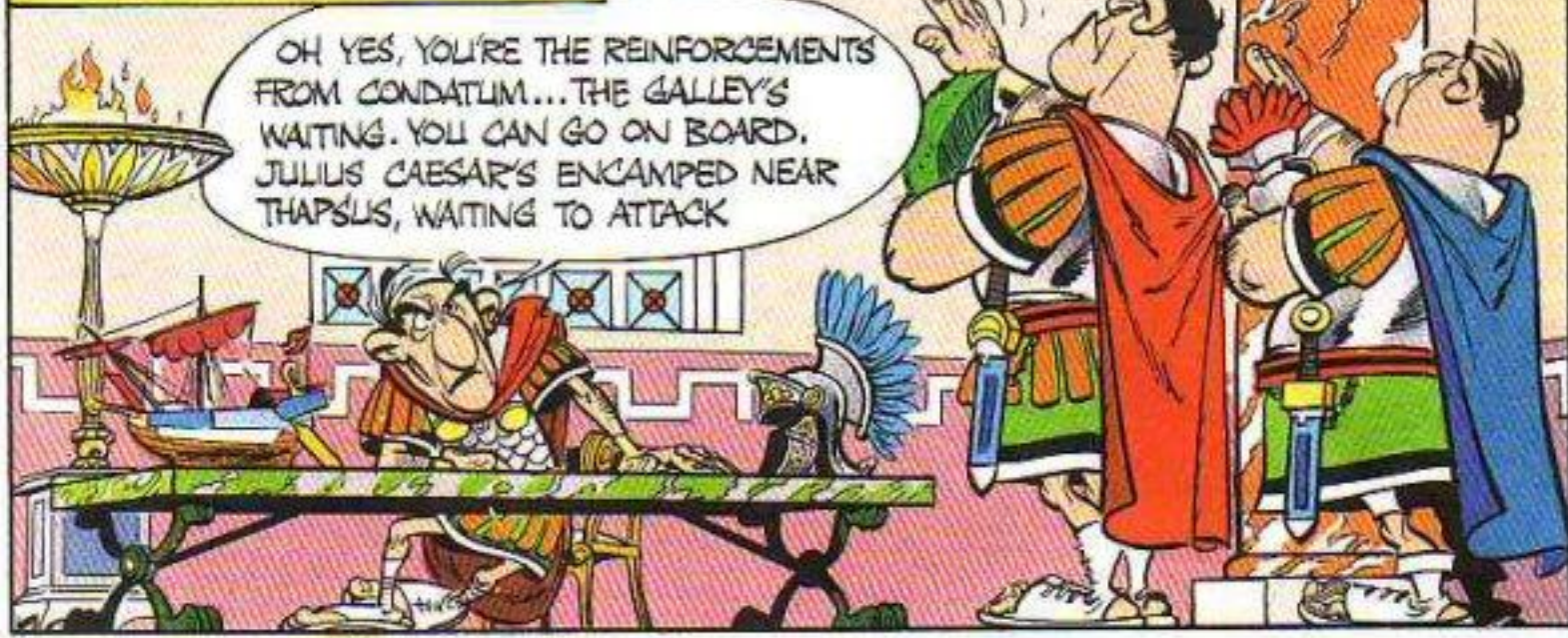






THE BARRACKS ARE IN THE NEW PORT. JUST A WORD OF ADVICE, BY JUPITER! GET YOURSELVES SMARTENED UP! IF YOU GO ABOUT MASSILIA DRESSED UP LIKE THAT YOU'LL SOON GET A DRESSING DOWN!

SOON AFTERWARDS, IN THE OFFICES OF THE COMMANDING TRIBUNE OF THE MASSILIA BARRACKS...



OH YES, YOU'RE THE REINFORCEMENTS FROM CONDATUM... THE GALLEY'S WAITING. YOU CAN GO ON BOARD. JULIUS CAESAR'S ENCAMPED NEAR THAPSUS, WAITING TO ATTACK



HERE'S OUR GALLEY!

KEEP RANKS! KEEP QUIET... PLEASE KEEP QUIET!

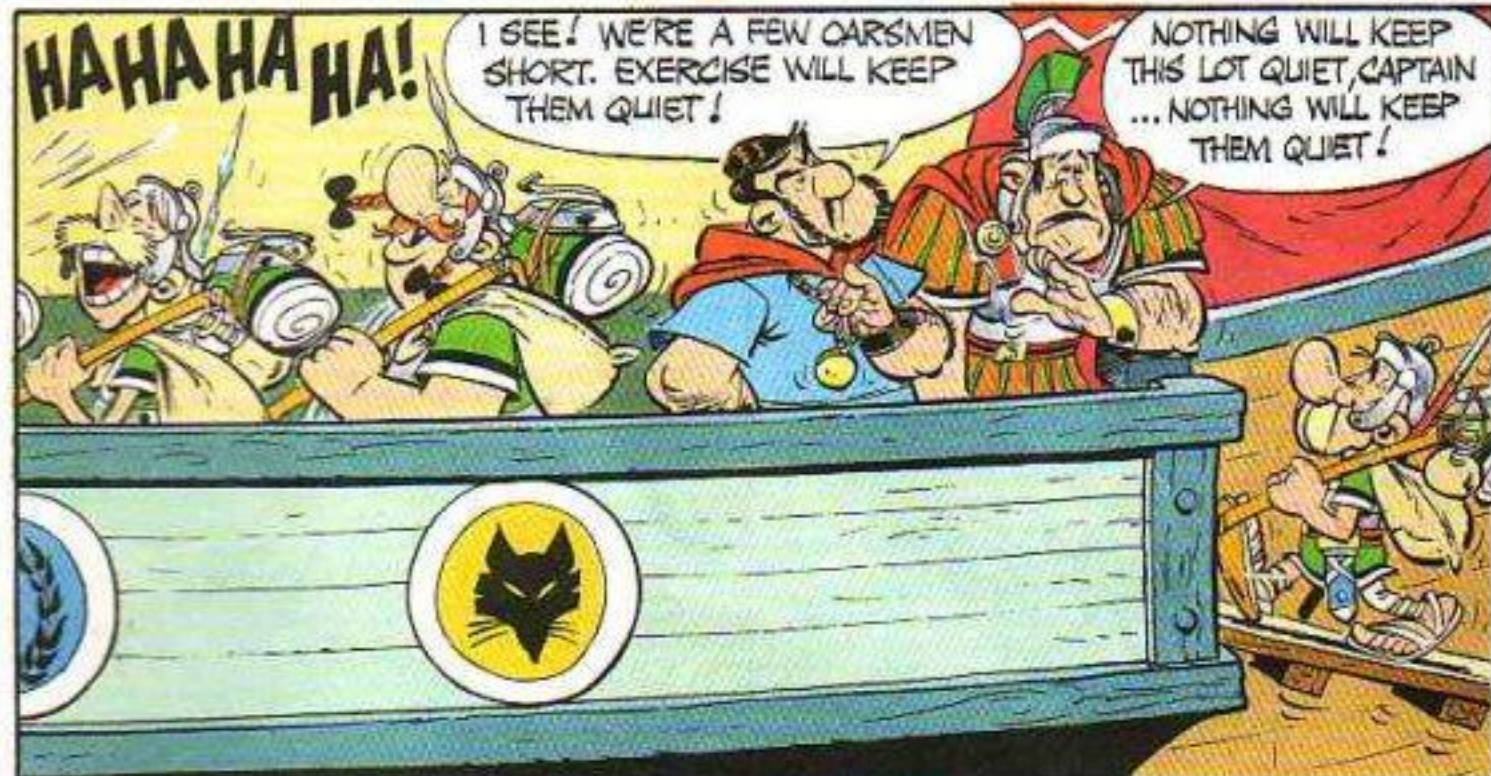


CENTURION NEFARIUS PURPLUS, READY TO LEAVE WHEN THE TIDE ALLOWS!



WHAT DID THAT MAN SAY?

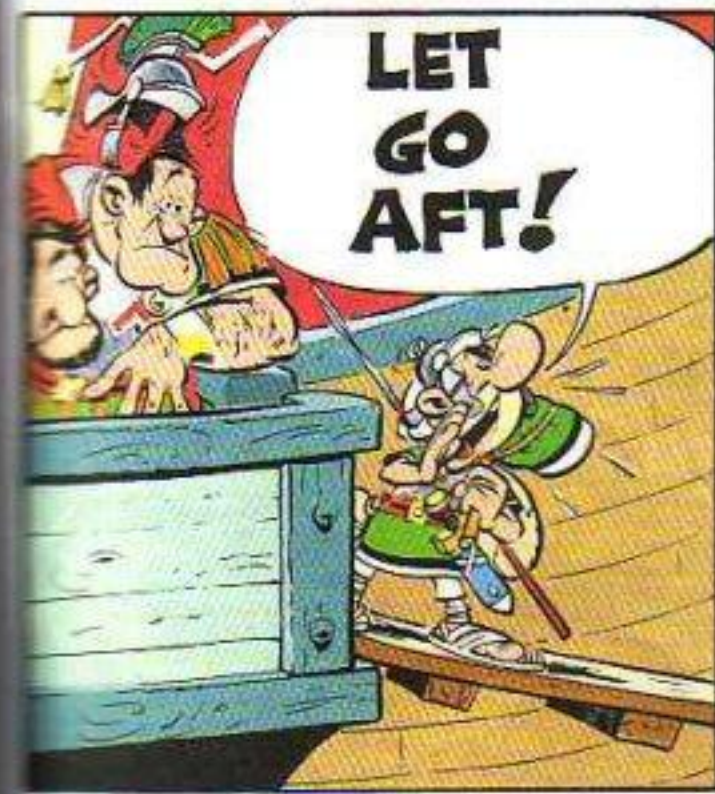
OLD HAIRY EYEBROWS



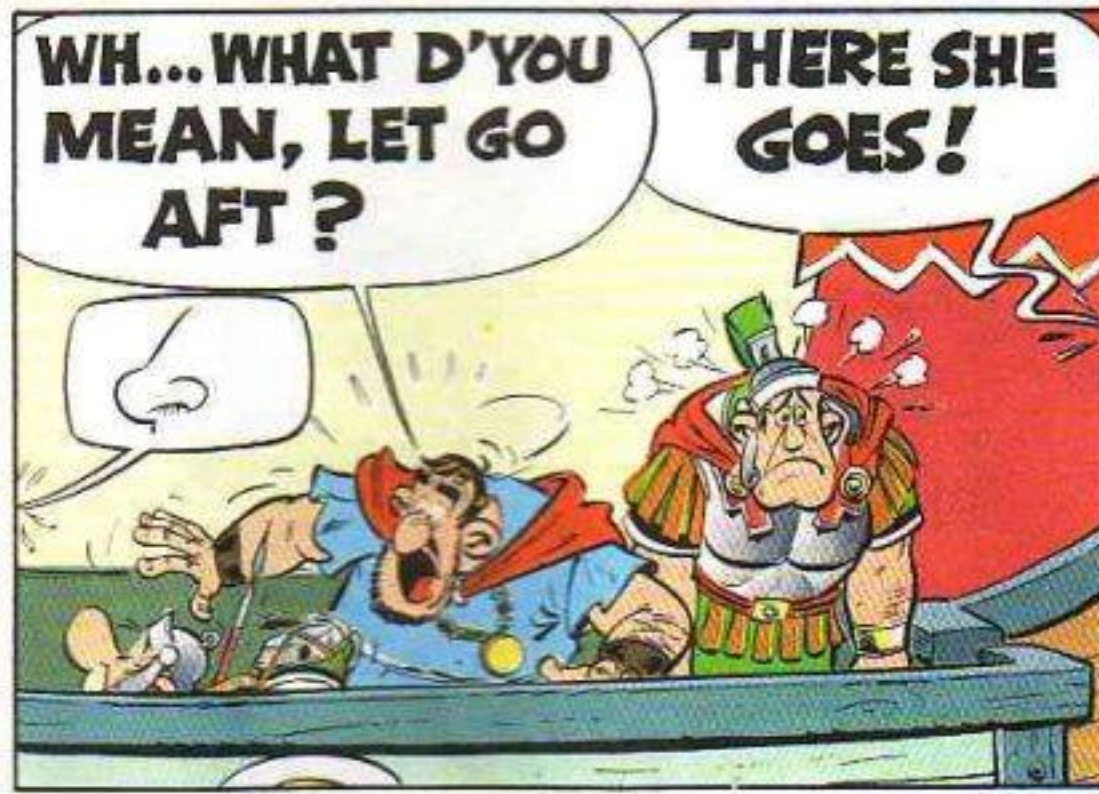
HAHAHA HA!

I SEE! WE'RE A FEW OARSMEN SHORT. EXERCISE WILL KEEP THEM QUIET!

NOTHING WILL KEEP THIS LOT QUIET, CAPTAIN... NOTHING WILL KEEP THEM QUIET!



LET GO AFT!



WH... WHAT D'YOU MEAN, LET GO AFT?

THERE SHE GOES!



HE SAID...

I KNOW, I KNOW... OLD HAIRY NOSE



CRUISING DOWN THE RIVER ON A SUNDAY AFTERNOON

I SAY, HOW ABOUT A BOAT RACE, WHAT?

NEVER ON SUNDAY!

ALL ROWS LEAD TO ROME... GET IT? ALL ROWS LEAD TO ROME!

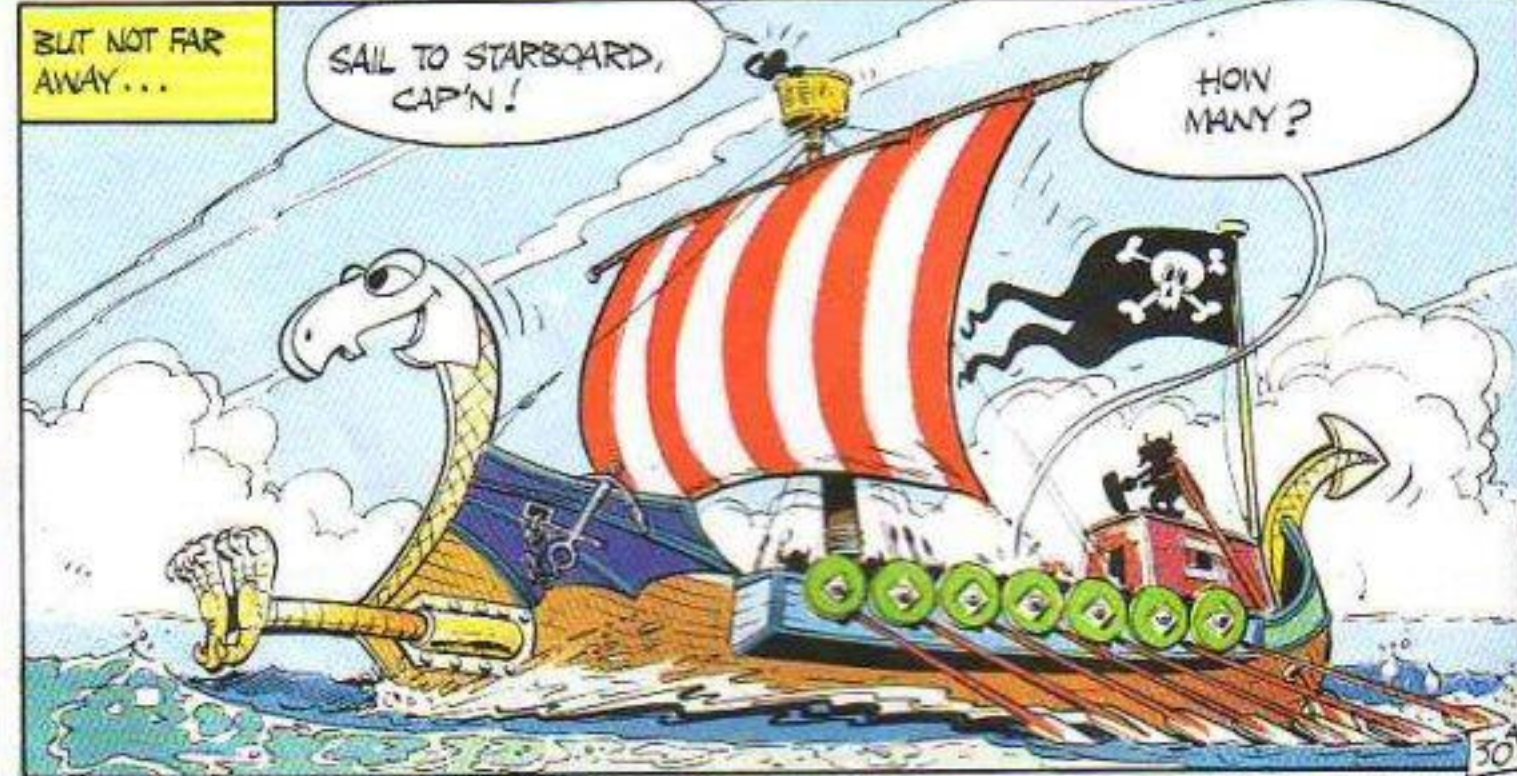
!!?



THINK YOU'RE CLEVER, EH? I'LL SOON SETTLE YOUR HASH, YOU THERE! SPEED UP THE STROKE!

THAT'S WHAT THE LITTLE GAUL ALREADY TOLD ME... I'M GIVING HER ALL I'VE GOT!

BONG! BONG! BONG!



BUT NOT FAR AWAY...

SAIL TO STARBOARD, CAP'N!

HOW MANY?



ONLY ONE, CAP'N, AND NOT TOO BIG!

SURE SHE'S ROMAN? NO GAULS? WE DON'T WANT TO SAIL TOO NEAR THE WIND



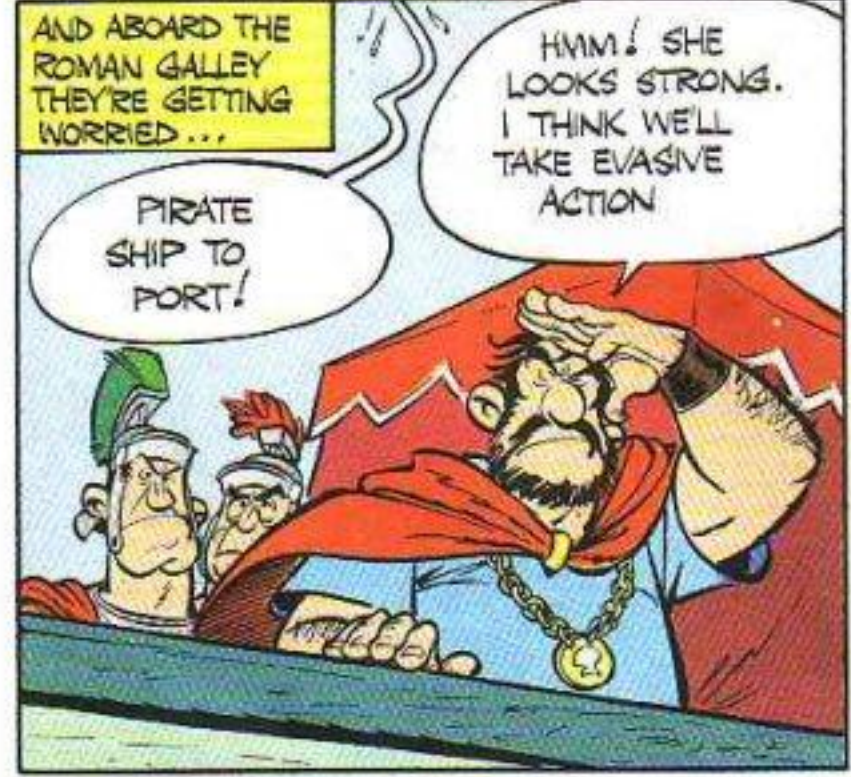
THEY'RE ALL IN ROMAN UNIFORM... WE CAN TAKE THE WIND OUT OF THEIR SAILS!

SURE?



SURE! THEY'LL SOON BE OUT OF THEIR DEPTH!

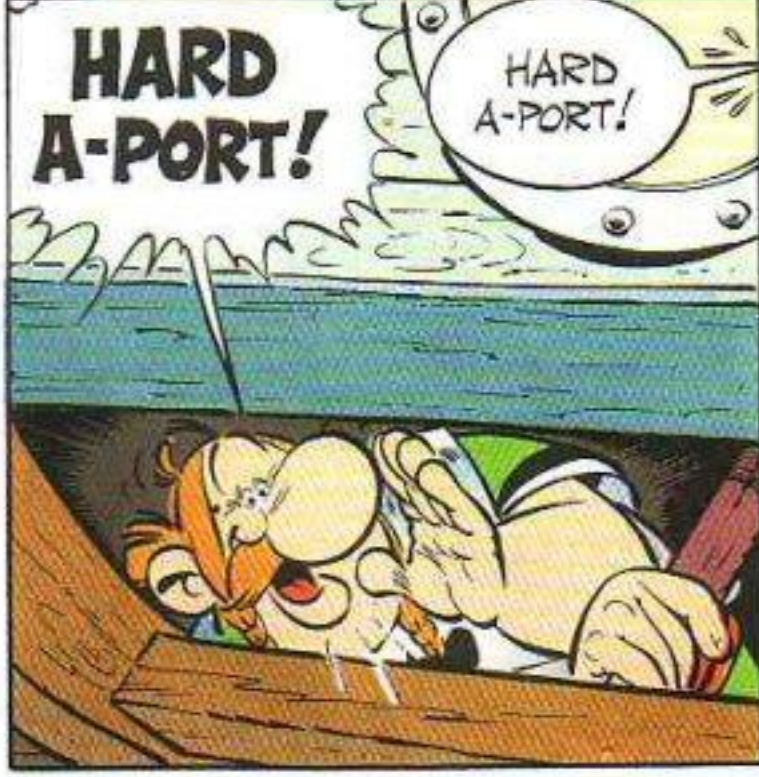
RIGHT! **STAND BY TO BOARD! HARRGH HARRGH HARRGH!**



AND ABOARD THE ROMAN GALLEY THEY'RE GETTING WORRIED...

PIRATE SHIP TO PORT!

HMM! SHE LOOKS STRONG. I THINK WE'LL TAKE EVASIVE ACTION



HARD A-PORT!

HARD A-PORT!



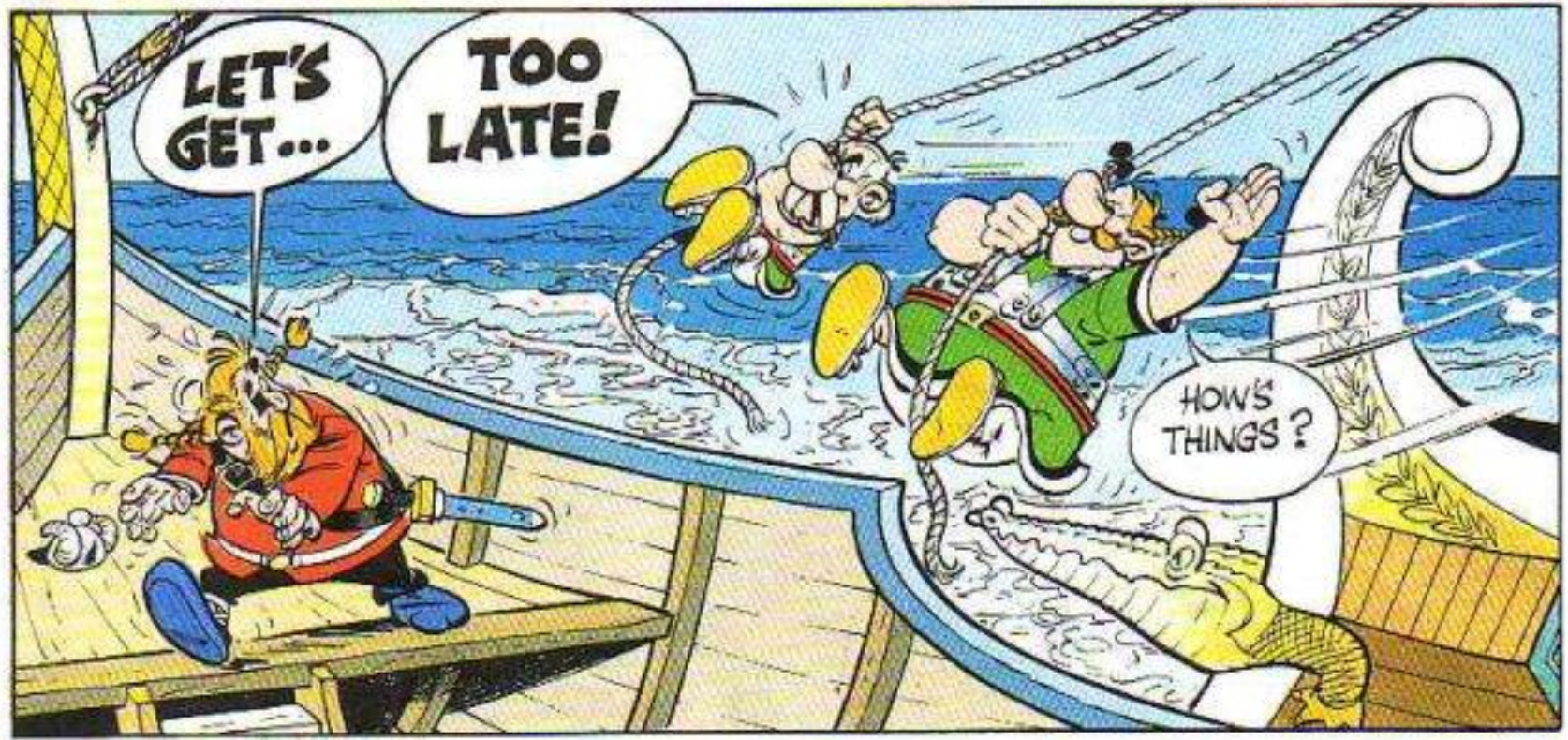
LOOK, ONCE AND FOR ALL, WHO'S GIVING THE COMMANDS?

OLD HAIRY HANDS!



THAT GALLEY'S COMING RIGHT FOR US, CAP'N!

RIGHT FOR US? THEN **THEY'RE ON BOARD!** DON'T ASK ME HOW OR WHY... I JUST KNOW **THEY'RE ON BOARD!** **LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!**



LET'S GET...

TOO LATE!

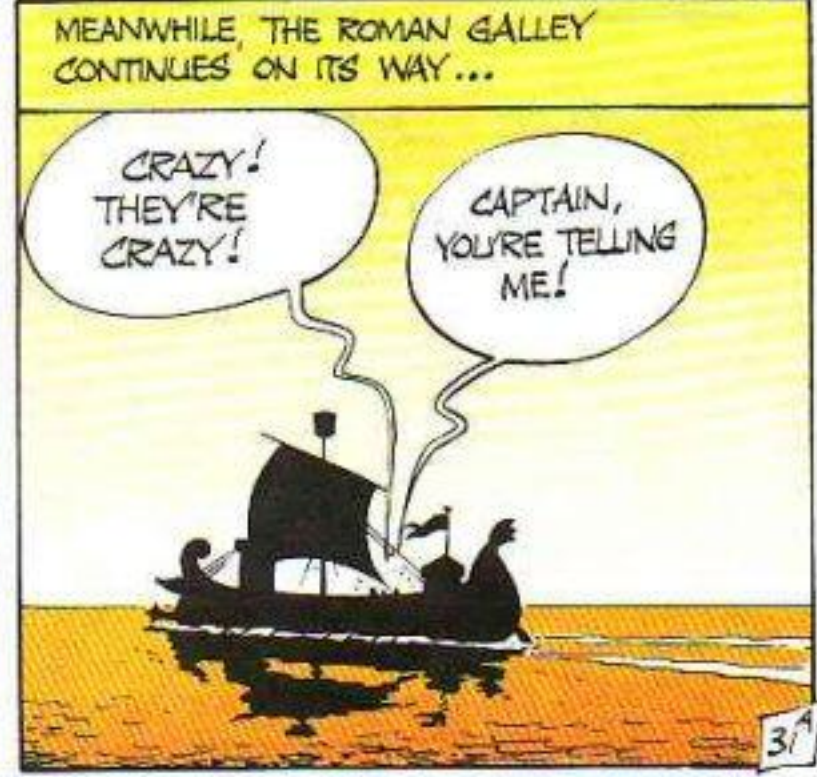
HOW'S THINGS?

SOON AFTERWARDS...



WE'VE BEEN FRAMED, BY JERICHO!*

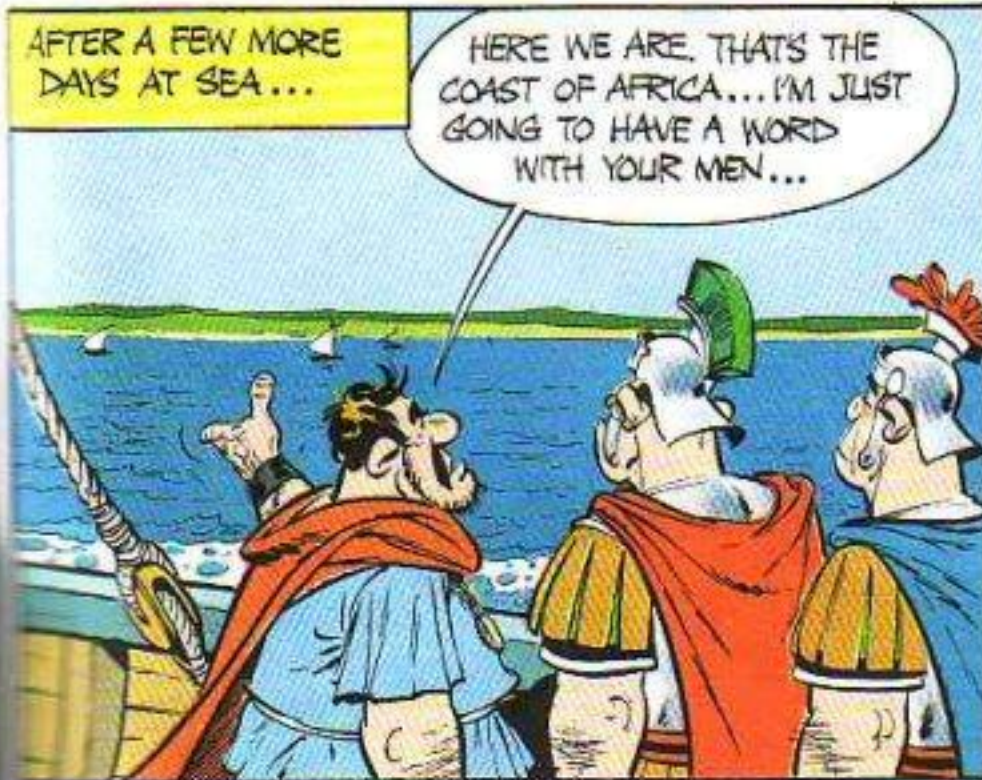
*ANCIENT GAULISH ARTIST



MEANWHILE, THE ROMAN GALLEY CONTINUES ON ITS WAY...

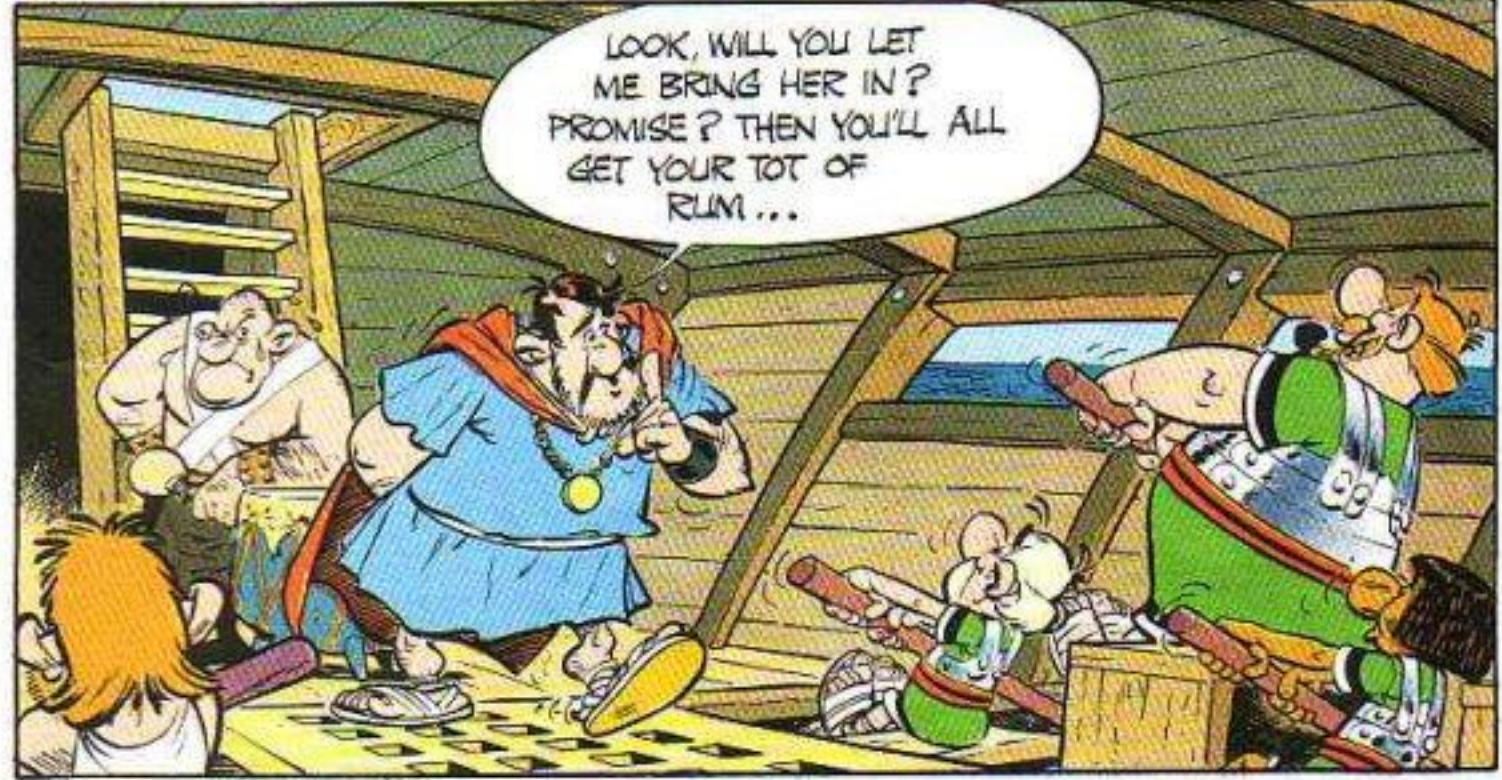
CRAZY! THEY'RE CRAZY!

CAPTAIN, YOU'RE TELLING ME!



AFTER A FEW MORE DAYS AT SEA...

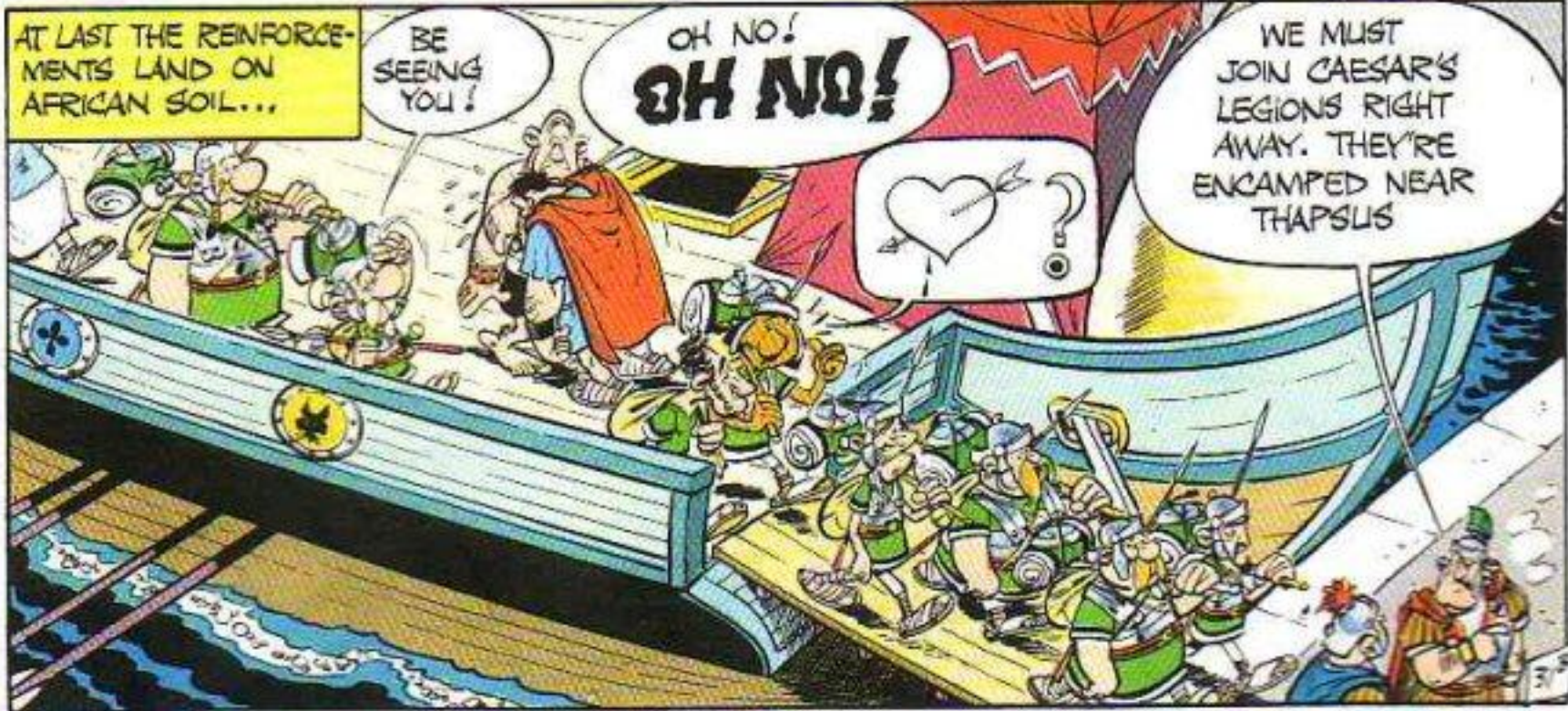
HERE WE ARE, THAT'S THE COAST OF AFRICA... I'M JUST GOING TO HAVE A WORD WITH YOUR MEN...



LOOK, WILL YOU LET ME BRING HER IN? PROMISE? THEN YOU'LL ALL GET YOUR TOT OF RUM...



AND IF THAT EGYPTIAN SAYS ANOTHER HIEROGLYPHIC, PERSONALLY, WILL THROW HIM OVERBOARD!!!

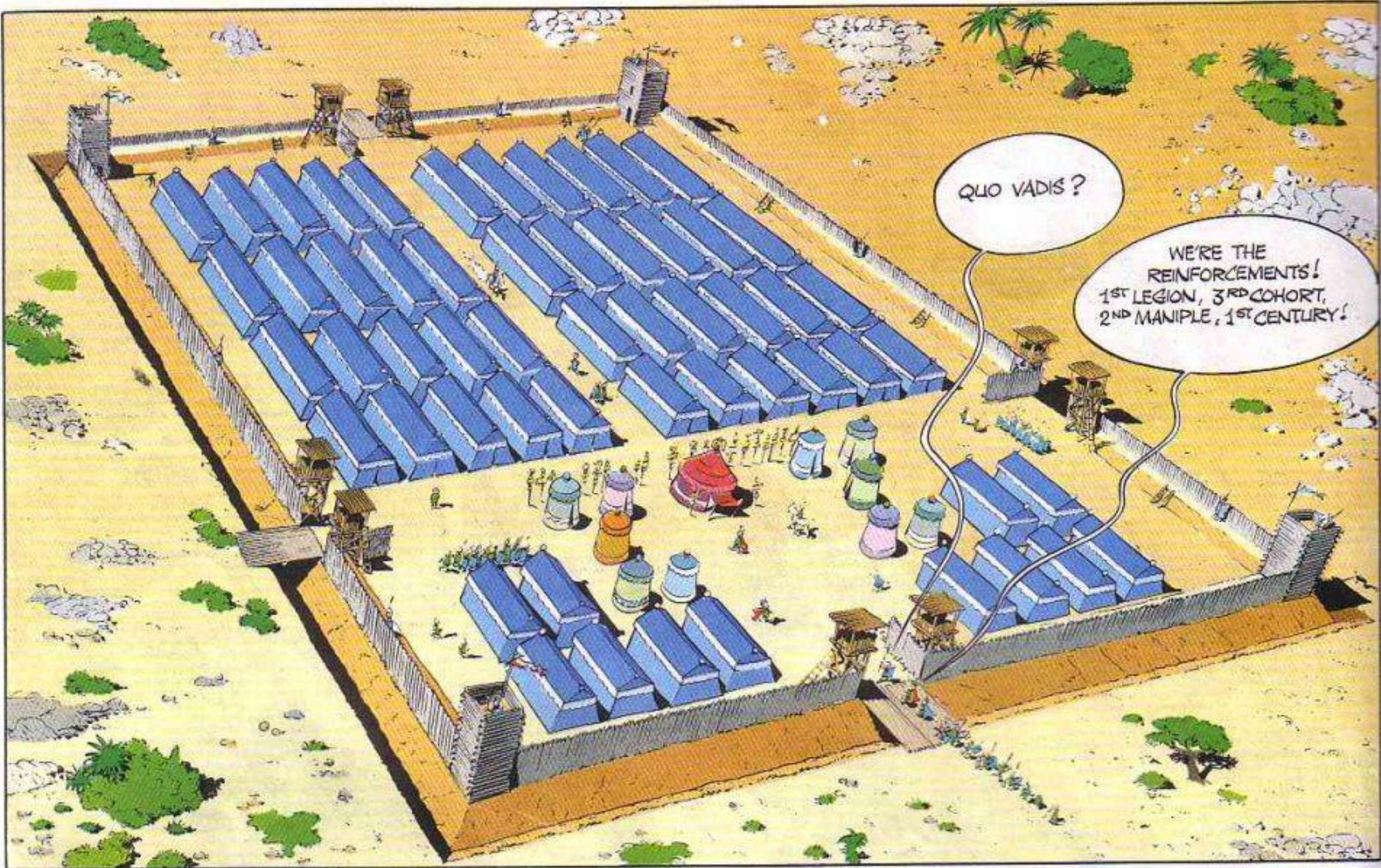


AT LAST THE REINFORCEMENTS LAND ON AFRICAN SOIL...

BE SEEING YOU!

OH NO! OH NO!

WE MUST JOIN CAESAR'S LEGIONS RIGHT AWAY. THEY'RE ENCAMPED NEAR THAPSUS



QUO VADIS?

WE'RE THE REINFORCEMENTS!
1ST LEGION, 3RD COHORT,
2ND MANIPLE, 1ST CENTURY!



THE CENTURION OF THE WATCH WILL SHOW YOU TO YOUR QUARTERS

WE'LL GO AND LOOK FOR TRAGICOMIX AT ONCE, SO WE CAN GET HOME TO GALL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

YES, LET'S! THE SOONER WE SCARAB OFF THE BETTER!



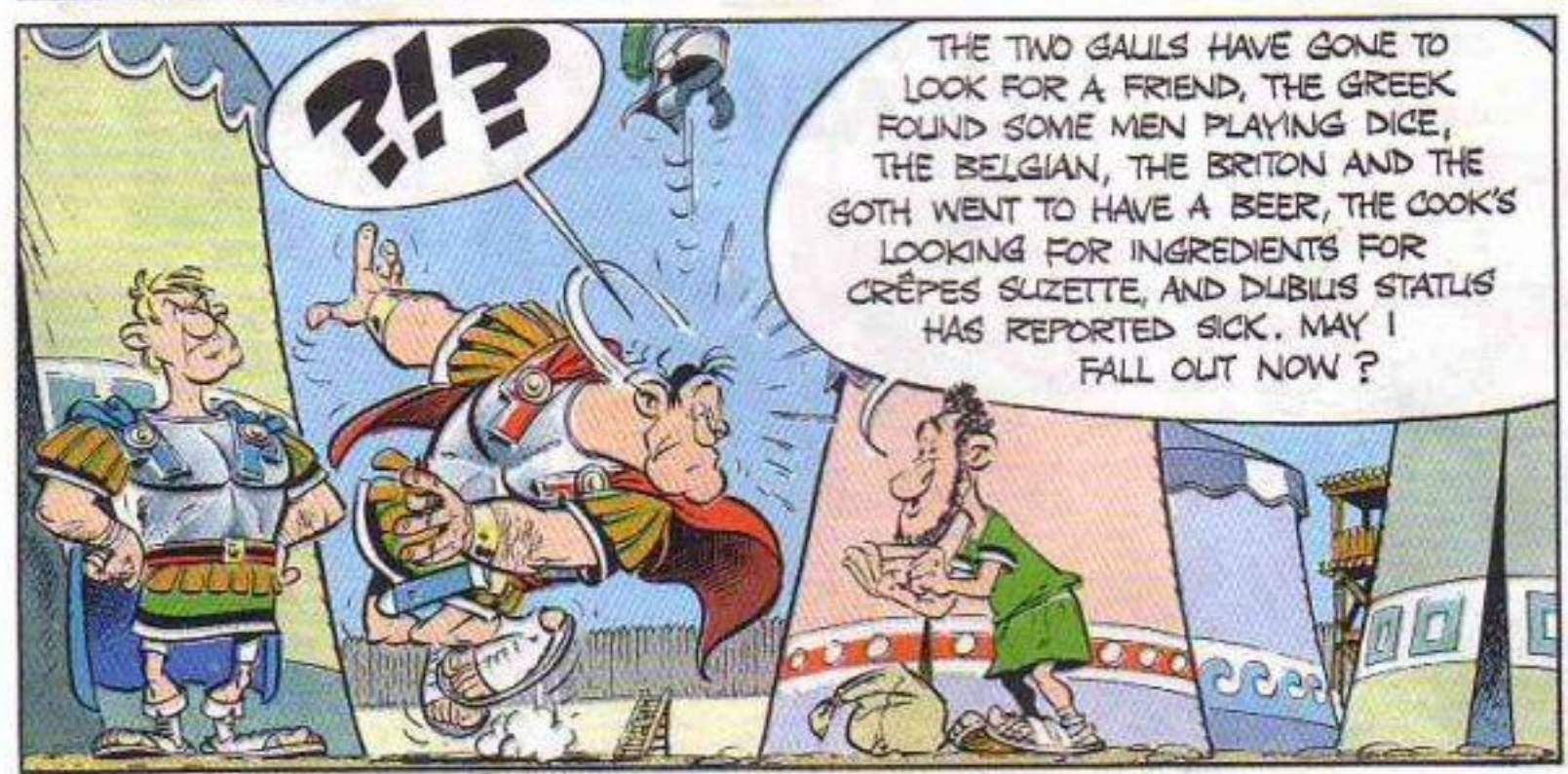
He says it's a very nice holiday camp

* THESE DAYS WE SHOULD SAY 'BEETLE'



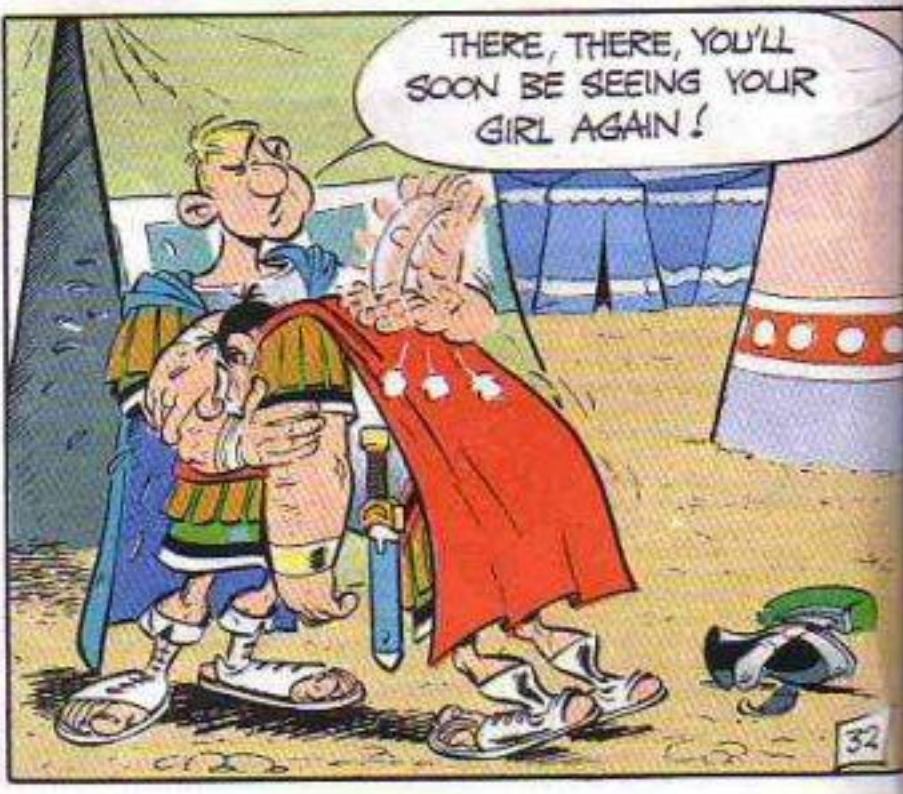
1ST LEGION, 3RD COHORT, 2ND MANIPLE, 1ST CENTURY, TAKING UP ITS QUARTERS!

REALLY? WHERE IS THE 1ST LEGION, 3RD COHORT, 2ND MANIPLE, 1ST CENTURY, THEN?

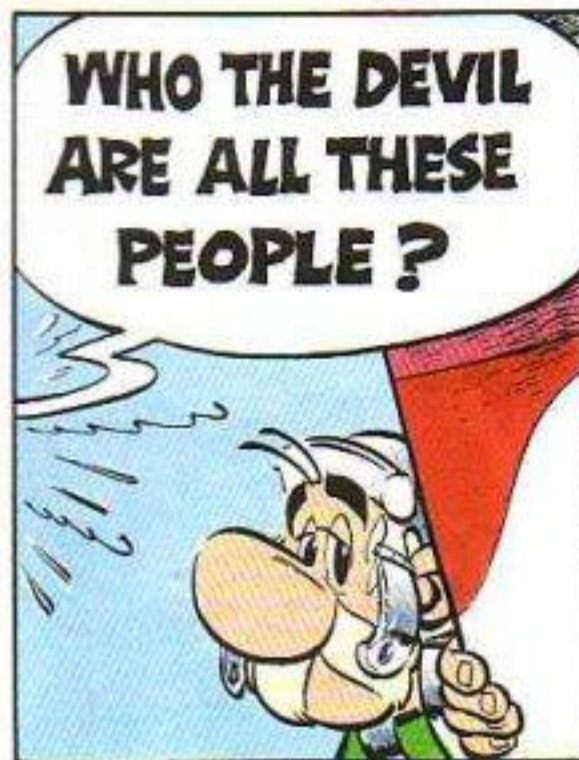
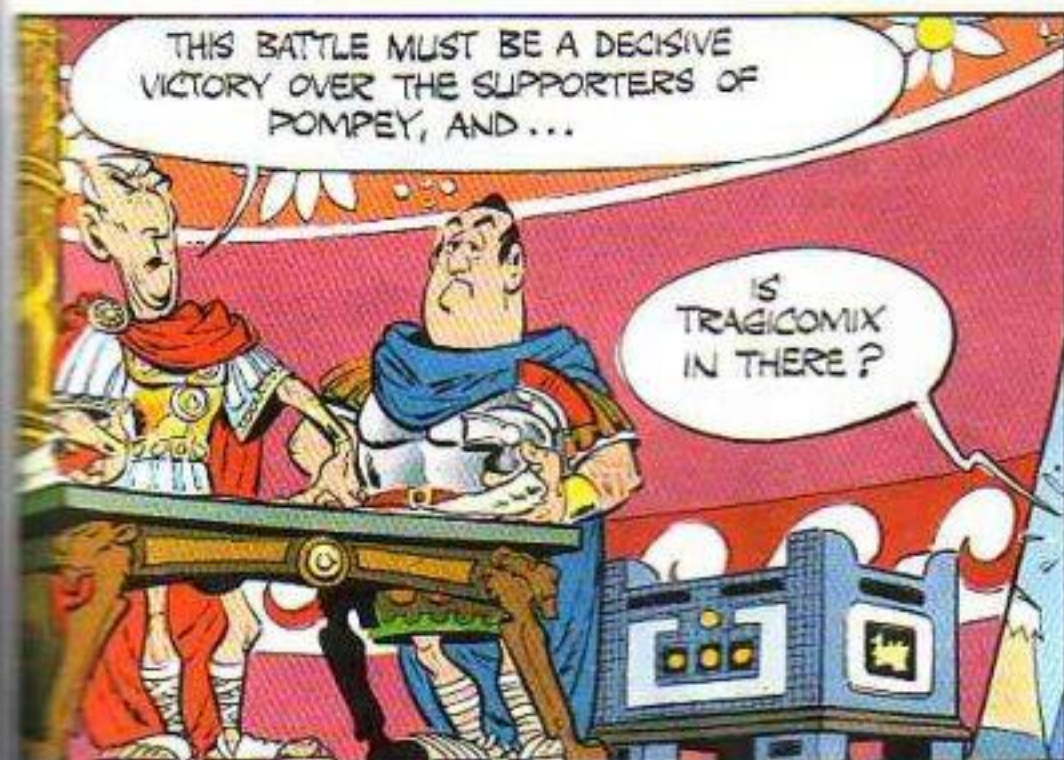
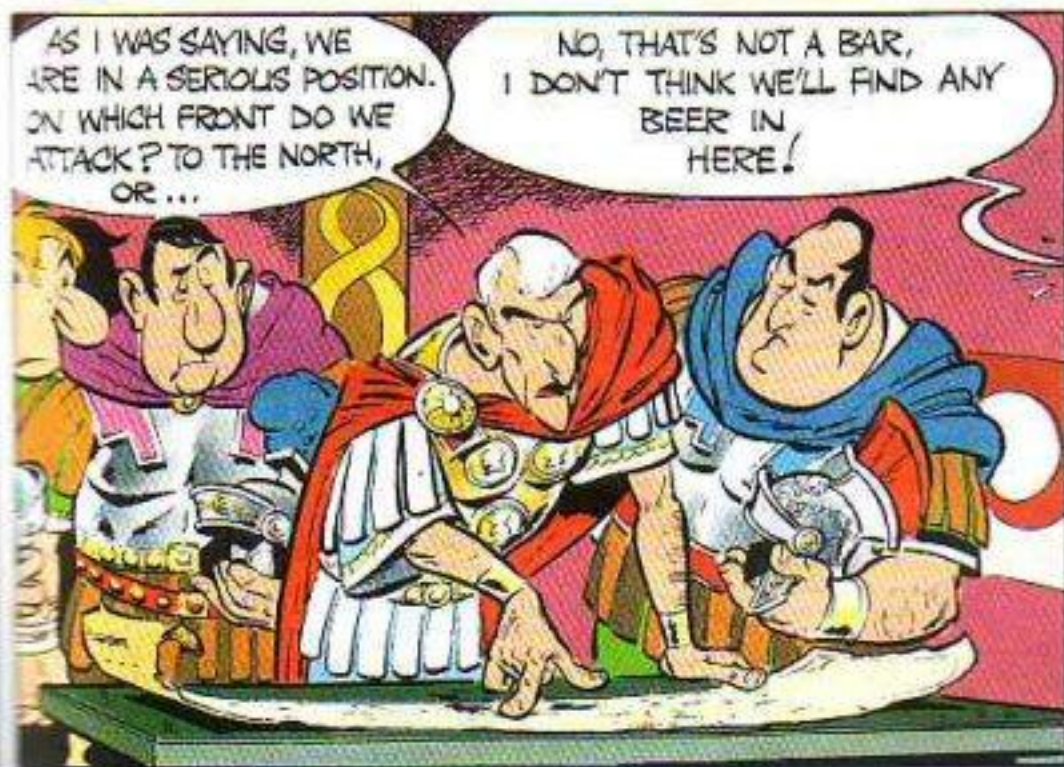
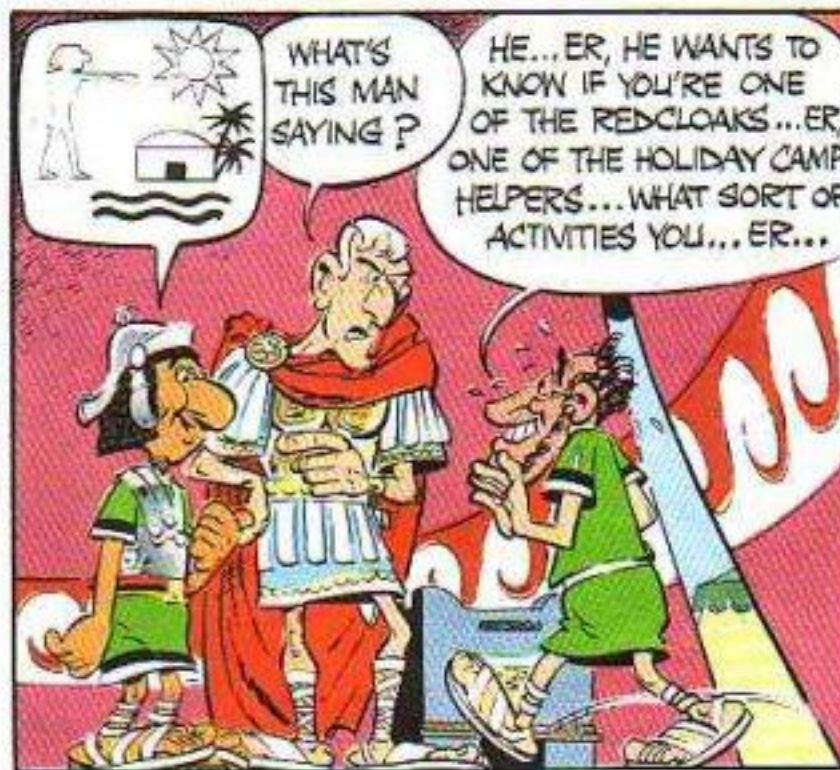
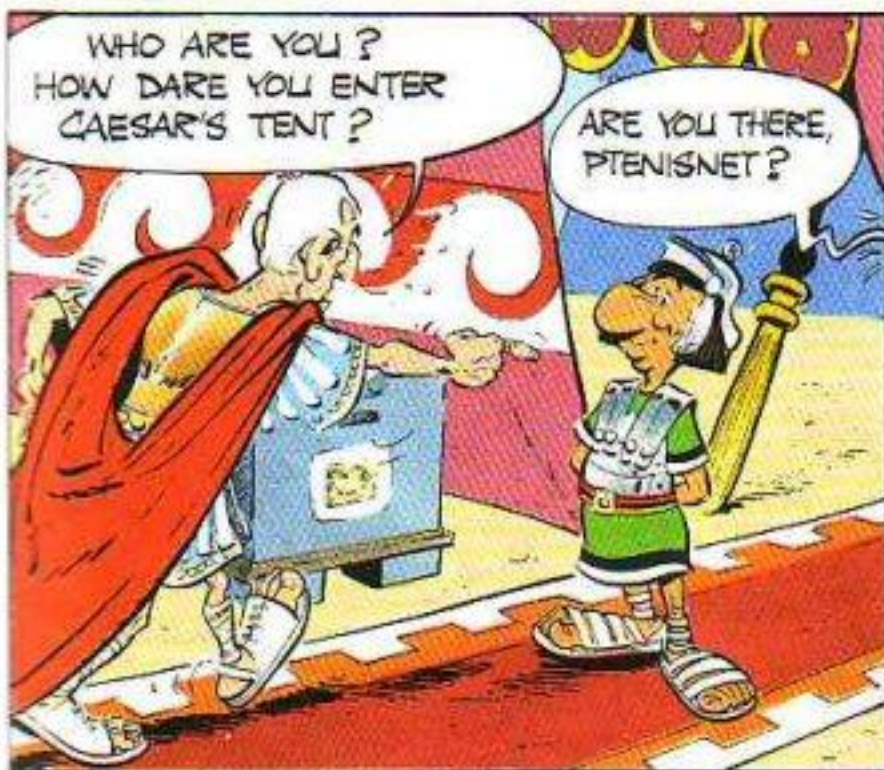
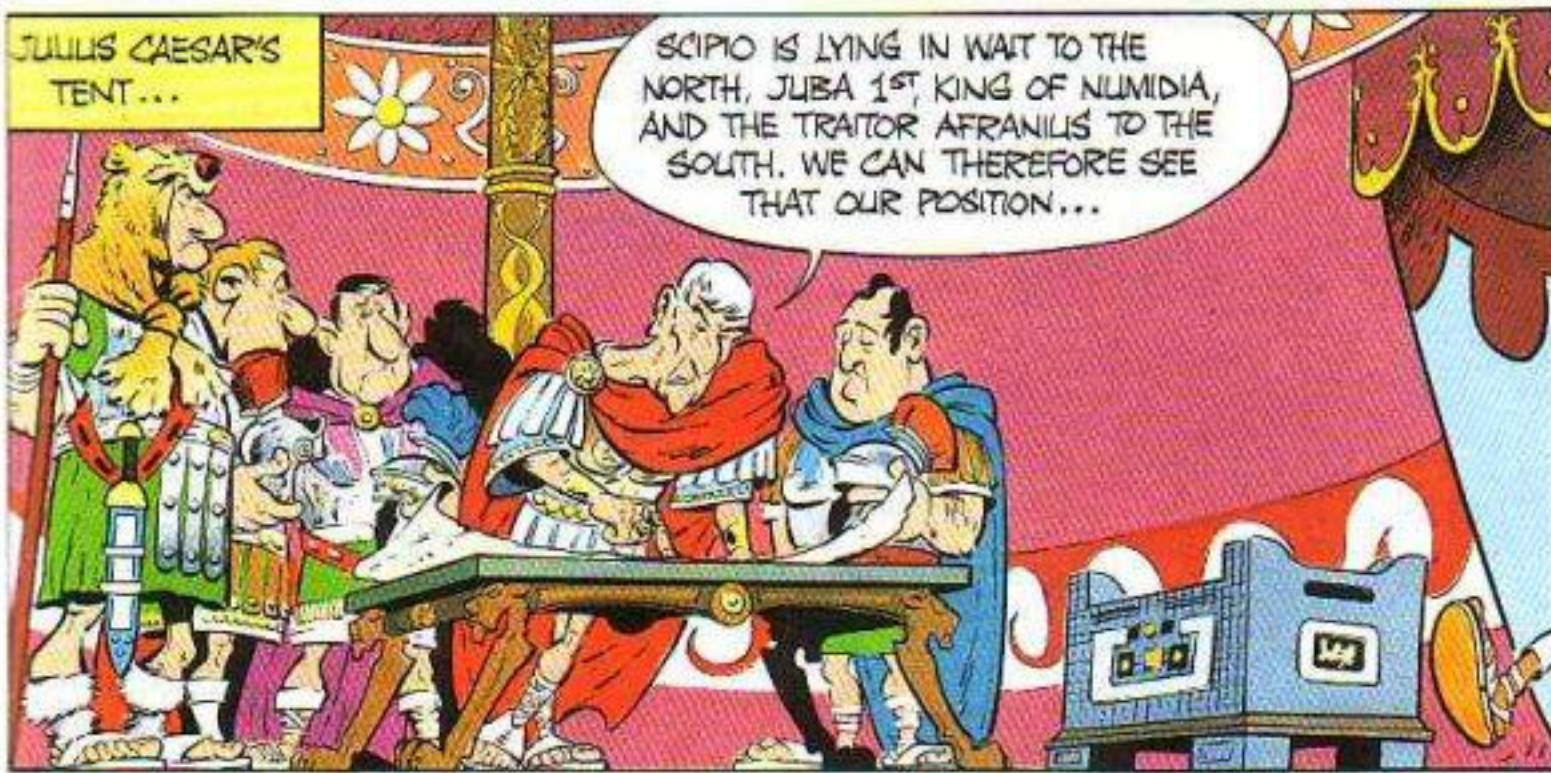


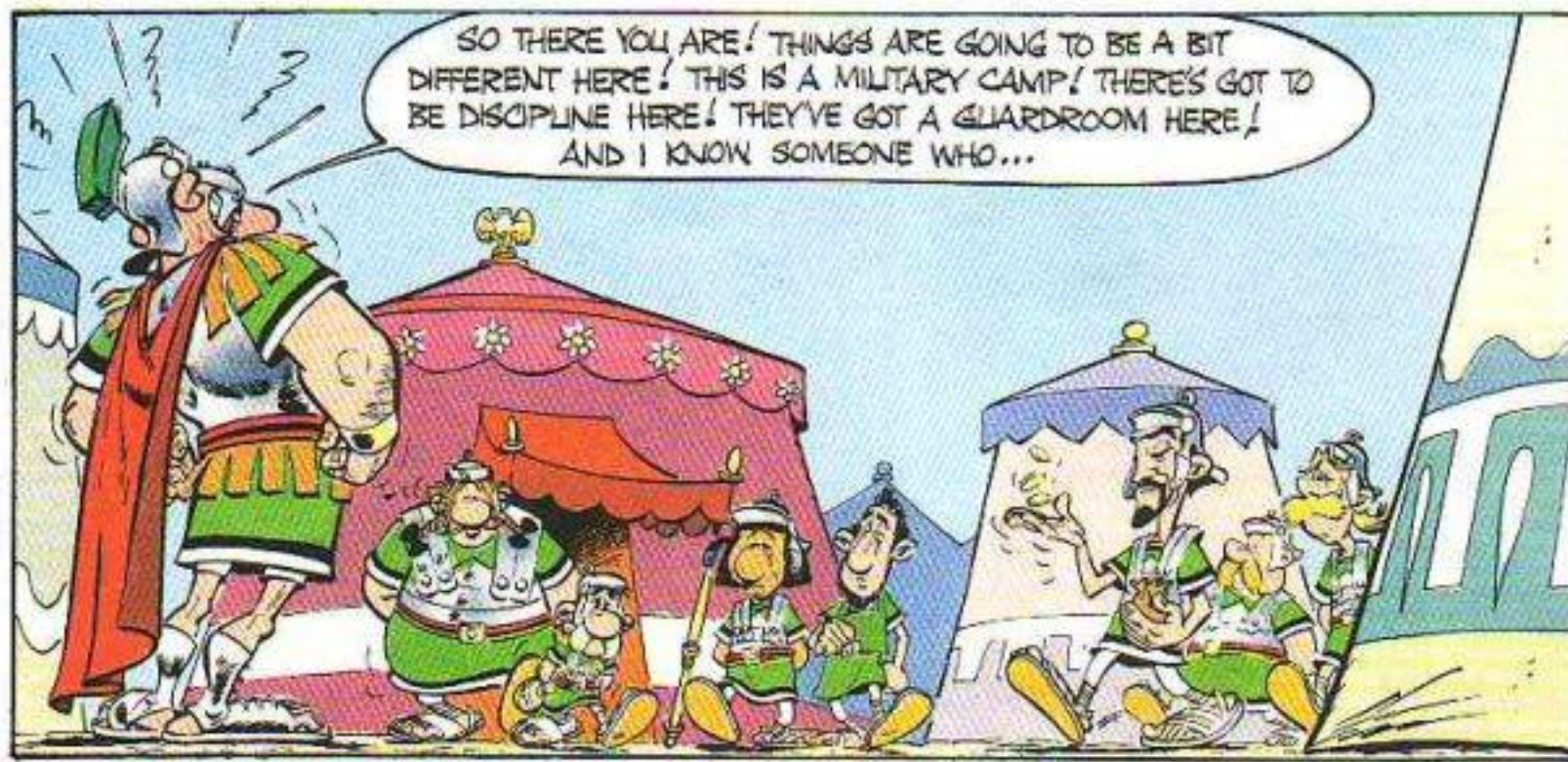
?!?

THE TWO GALLS HAVE GONE TO LOOK FOR A FRIEND, THE GREEK FOUND SOME MEN PLAYING DICE, THE BELGIAN, THE BRITON AND THE GOTH WENT TO HAVE A BEER, THE COOK'S LOOKING FOR INGREDIENTS FOR CRÊPES SUZETTE, AND DUBILIS STATUS HAS REPORTED SICK. MAY I FALL OUT NOW?



THERE, THERE, YOU'LL SOON BE SEEING YOUR GIRL AGAIN!





SO THERE YOU ARE! THINGS ARE GOING TO BE A BIT DIFFERENT HERE! THIS IS A MILITARY CAMP! THERE'S GOT TO BE DISCIPLINE HERE! THEY'VE GOT A GUARDROOM HERE! AND I KNOW SOMEONE WHO...



OFFICER IN COMMAND OF THE DETACHMENT OF THE 1ST LEGION, 3RD COHORT, 2ND MANIPLE, 1ST CENTURY?

THAT'S RIGHT!

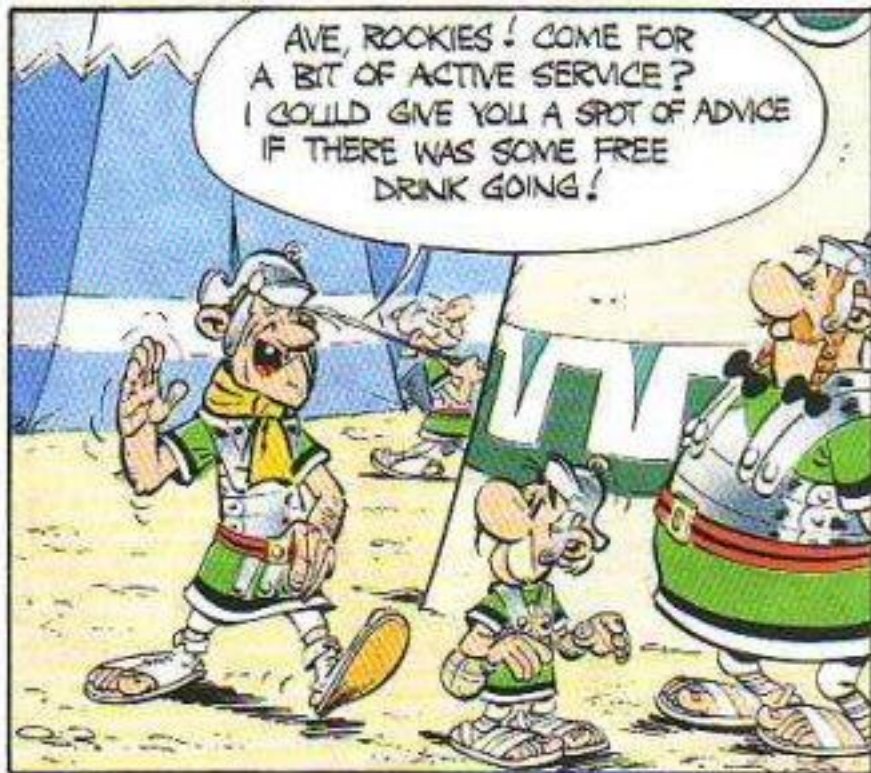


RIGHT! WE ARREST YOU IN THE NAME OF JULIUS CAESAR, WHO DOESN'T LIKE BEING INTERRUPTED WHEN HE'S TALKING! IT'S THE GUARDROOM FOR YOU!



WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR TRAGICOMIX ALL OVER THE PLACE, AND WE CAN'T FIND HIM ANYWHERE...

HE MUST BE SOMEWHERE IN AFRICA!



AVE, ROOKIES! COME FOR A BIT OF ACTIVE SERVICE? I COULD GIVE YOU A SPOT OF ADVICE IF THERE WAS SOME FREE DRINK GOING!

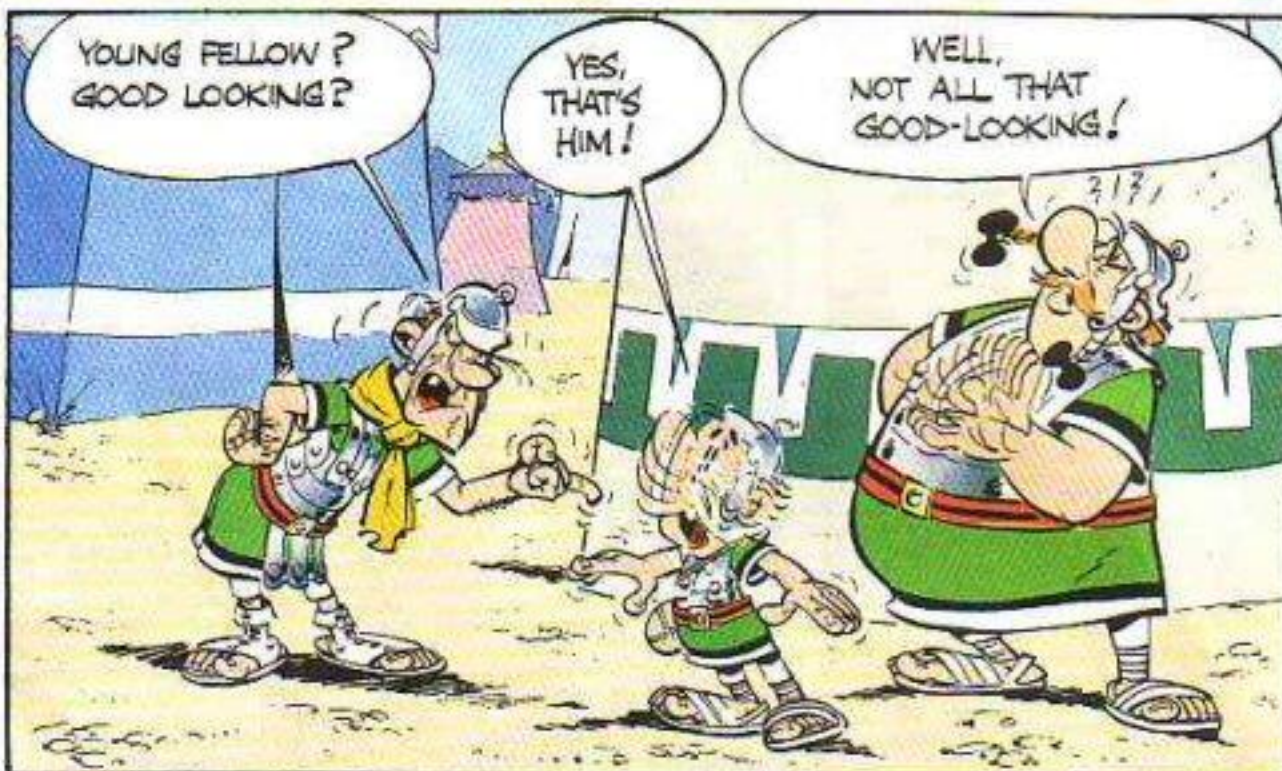


I'M AN OLD HAND OUT HERE. I KNOW MY WAY AROUND! I KNOW EVERYBODY, I DO!

DO YOU KNOW A LEGIONARY CALLED TRAGICOMIX?



TRAGICOMIX... TRAGICOMIX WITH A T, AS IN TIMEO DANAOS ET DONA FERENTES?



YOUNG FELLOW? GOOD LOOKING?

YES, THAT'S HIM!

WELL, NOT ALL THAT GOOD-LOOKING!



POOR CHAP! HE'D ONLY JUST GOT HERE WHEN HE WAS LOST IN A SKIRMISH WITH SCIPIO'S MEN...



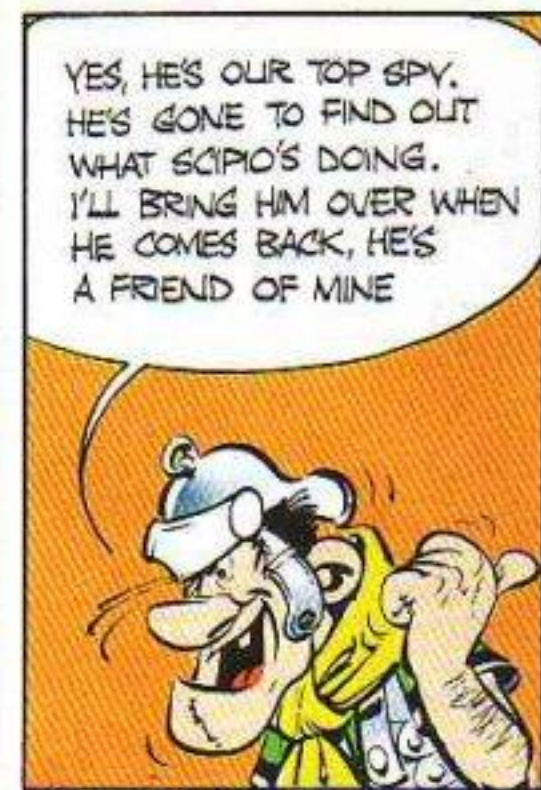
YOU MEAN TRAGICONIX HAS BEEN...

WELL, MAYBE NOT. THEY DO SOMETIMES TAKE PRISONERS FOR QUESTIONING

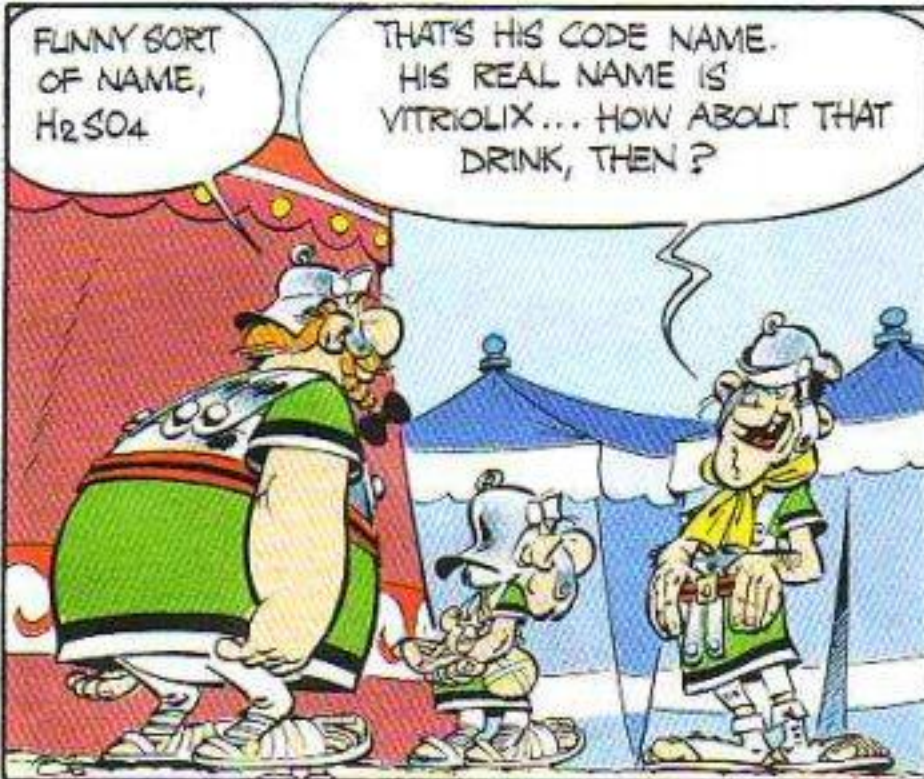


YOU MIGHT FIND OUT MORE WHEN H₂SO₄ GETS BACK TONIGHT

H₂SO₄?



YES, HE'S OUR TOP SPY. HE'S GONE TO FIND OUT WHAT SCIPIO'S DOING. I'LL BRING HIM OVER WHEN HE COMES BACK, HE'S A FRIEND OF MINE



FUNNY SORT OF NAME, H₂SO₄

THAT'S HIS CODE NAME. HIS REAL NAME IS VITRIOLIX... HOW ABOUT THAT DRINK, THEN?



GO ROUND TO OUR COOKS TENT...

TELL HIM WE SENT YOU

THANKS, PALS! SEE YOU TONIGHT



THAT NIGHT, OUTSIDE THE CAMP GATES...

H₂SO₄

GIVE THE PASSWORD!

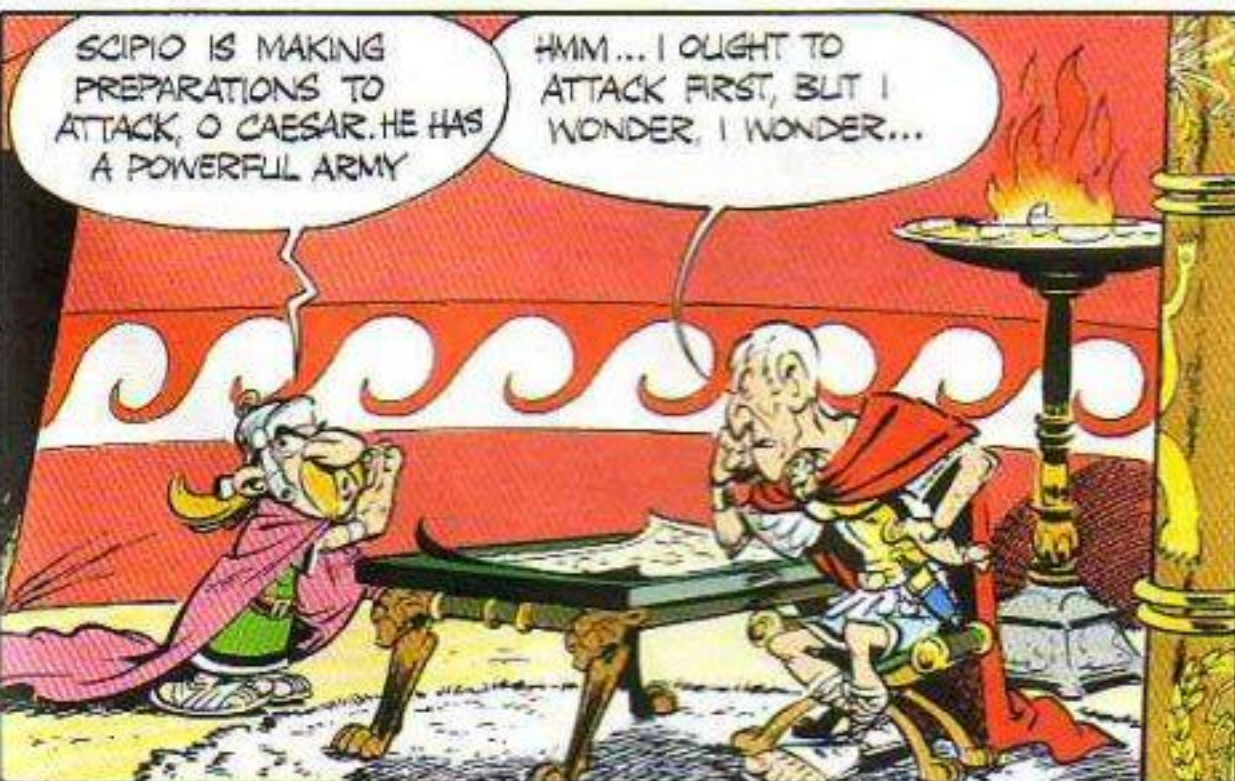


DIGNUS EST INTRARE

PASS, FRIEND!

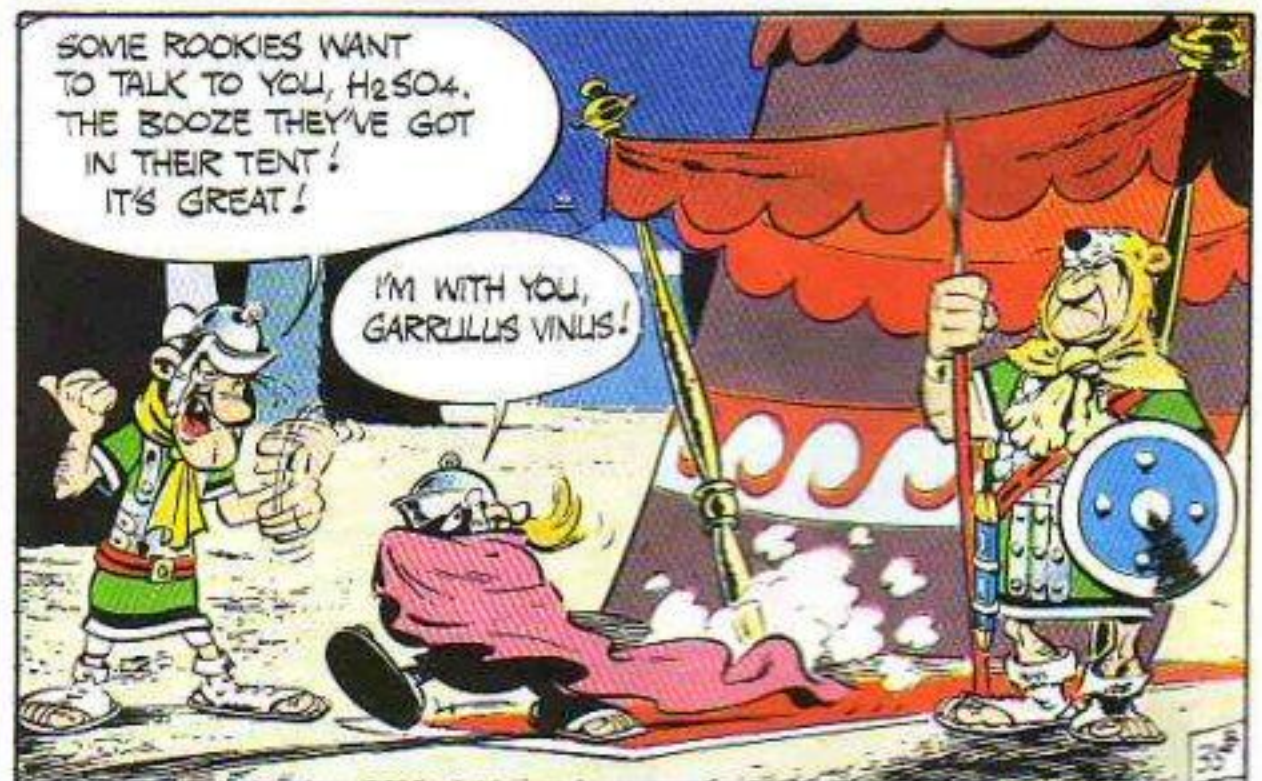


CAESAR'S EXPECTING YOU, H₂SO₄



SCIPIO IS MAKING PREPARATIONS TO ATTACK, O CAESAR. HE HAS A POWERFUL ARMY

HMM... I OUGHT TO ATTACK FIRST, BUT I WONDER, I WONDER...



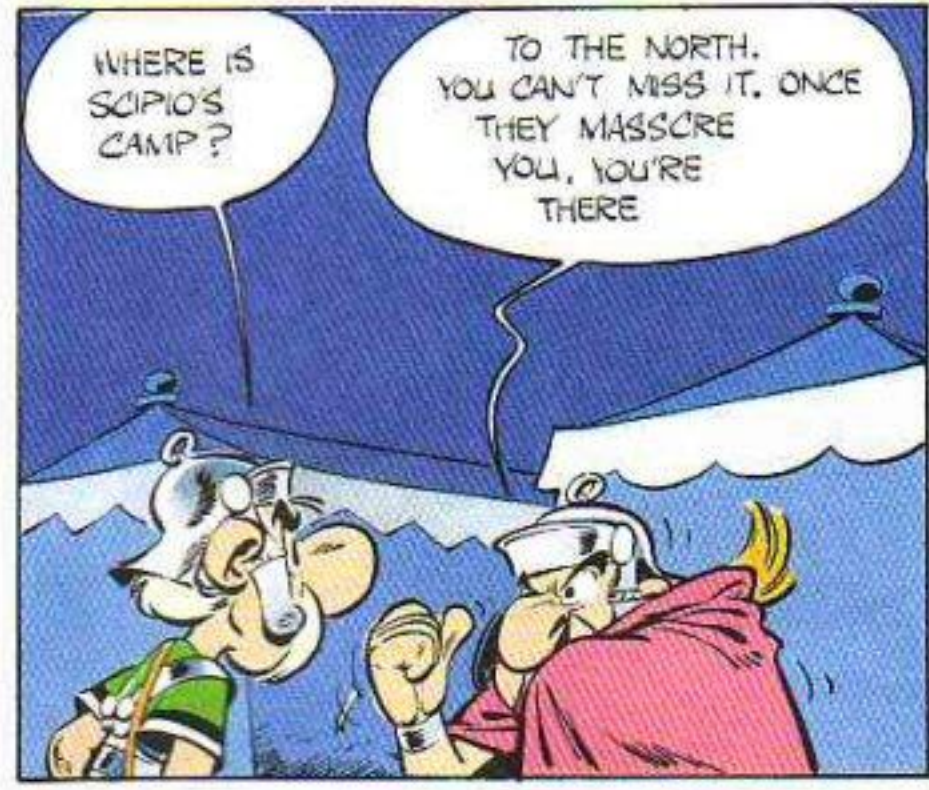
SOME ROOKIES WANT TO TALK TO YOU, H₂SO₄. THE BOOZE THEY'VE GOT IN THEIR TENT! IT'S GREAT!

I'M WITH YOU, GARRILLUS VINUS!



YES, I DID SEE SOME PRISONERS IN SCIPIO'S CAMP... YES, TRAGICOMIX THE GAUL WAS THERE... THE GOOD-LOOKING ONE...

HUH!



WHERE IS SCIPIO'S CAMP?

TO THE NORTH. YOU CAN'T MISS IT. ONCE THEY MASSCRE YOU, YOU'RE THERE



HAVE SOME REFRESHMENTS. I THINK THERE'S SOME SEAFOOD SOUFFLE LEFT

SEAFOOD SOUFFLE??!

GREAT, I TOLD YOU... REALLY GREAT!



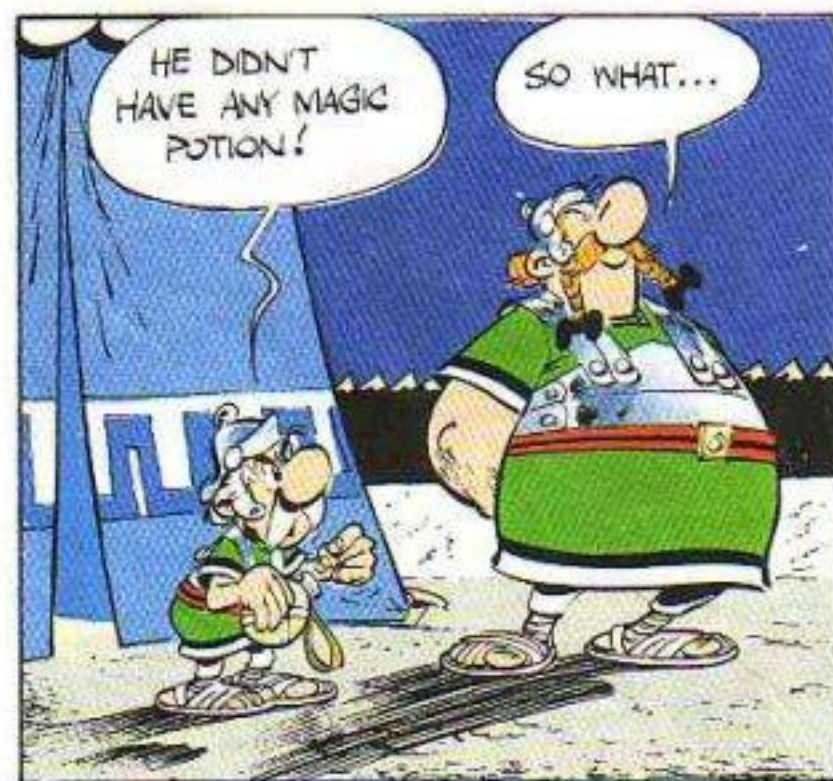
AS FOR US, WE'RE OFF TO RESCUE TRAGICOMIX!

WHAT, THE GOOD-LOOKING ONE?



OBELIX, THIS IS NO TIME TO BE JEALOUS! REMEMBER YOUR PROMISE TO PANACEA!

OH ALL RIGHT... HE MUST BE A BIT OF A NITWIT, THOUGH, IF HE GETS HIMSELF CAPTURED BY THE ROMANS!



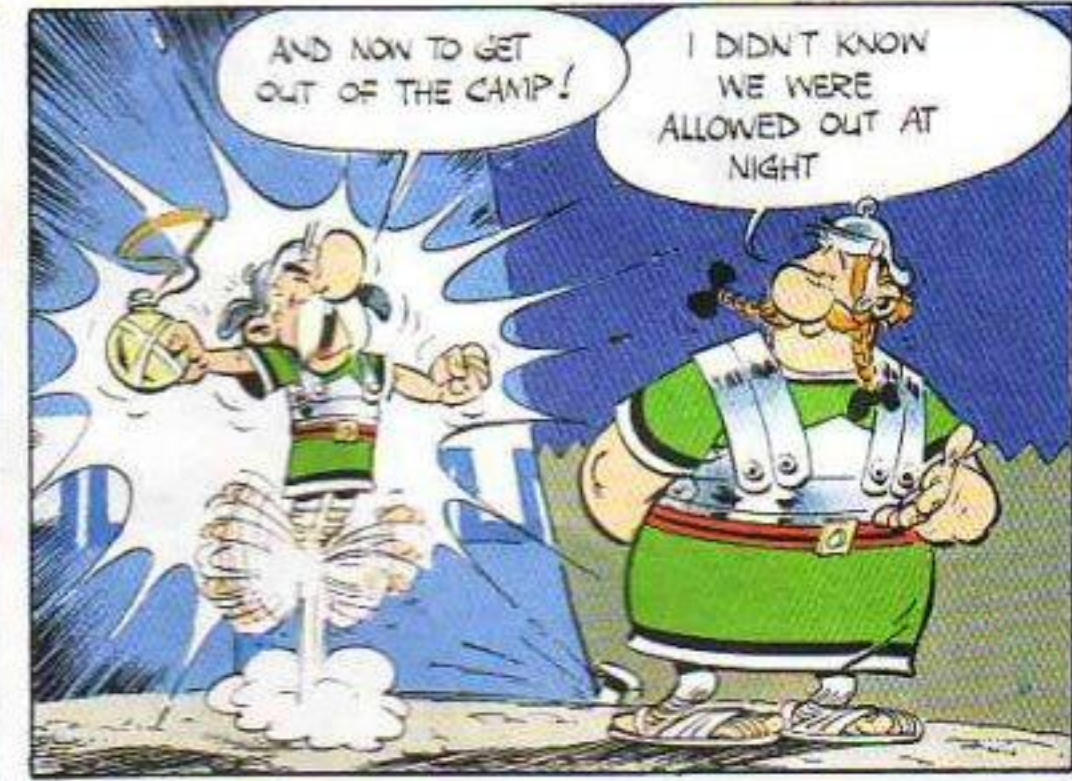
HE DIDN'T HAVE ANY MAGIC POTION!

SO WHAT...



HE'S STILL A GOOD-LOOKING NITWIT

GLUGGLUG GLUG!



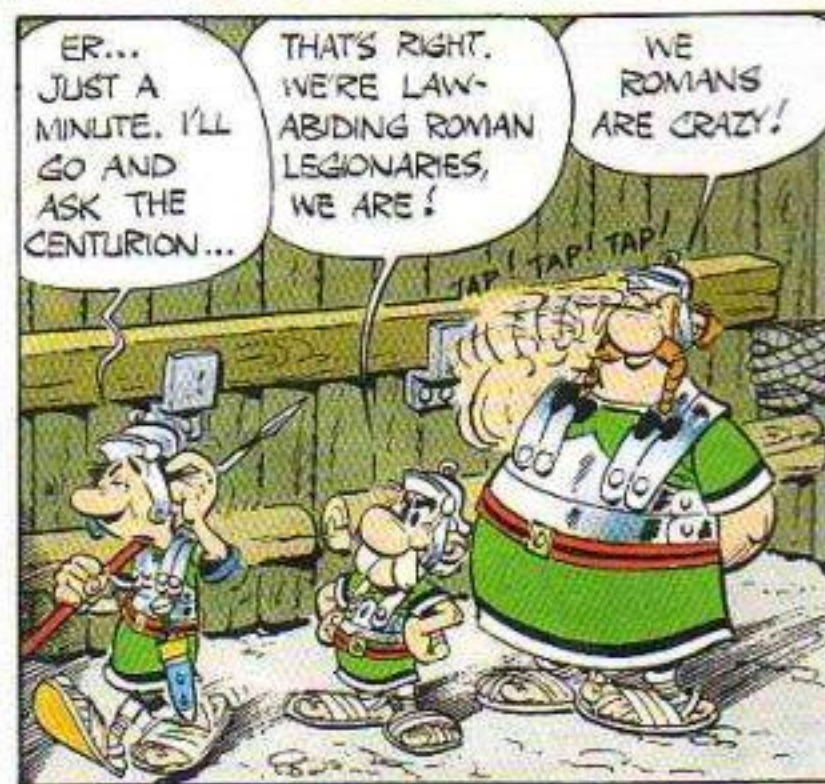
AND NOW TO GET OUT OF THE CAMP!

I DIDN'T KNOW WE WERE ALLOWED OUT AT NIGHT



HALT! GIVE THE PASSWORD!

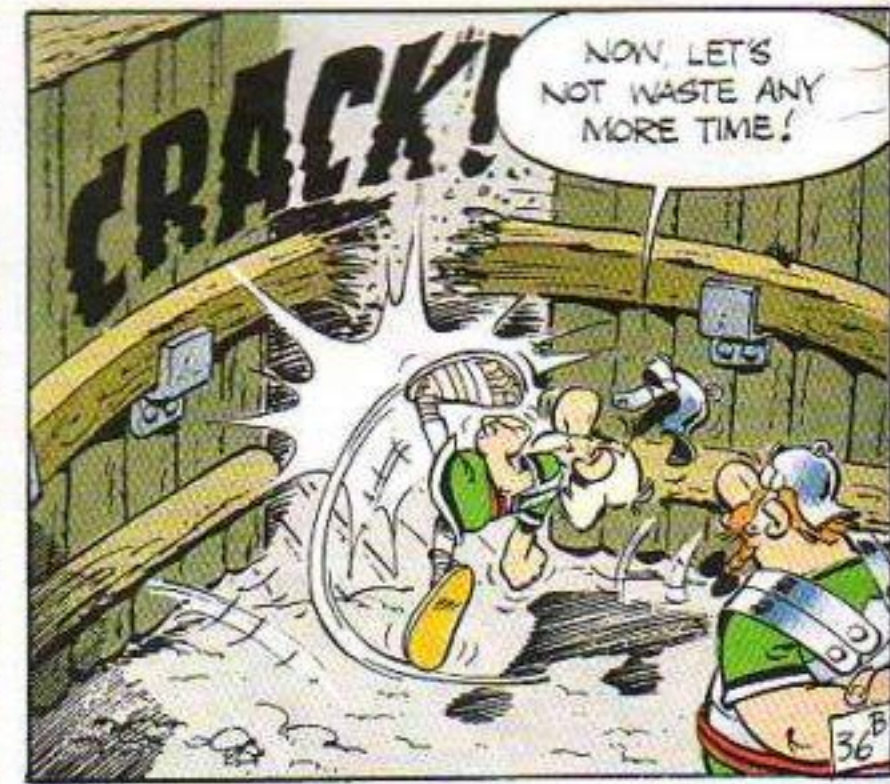
BUT THE PASSWORD'S FOR COMING IN. WE'RE GOING OUT!



ER... JUST A MINUTE. I'LL GO AND ASK THE CENTURION...

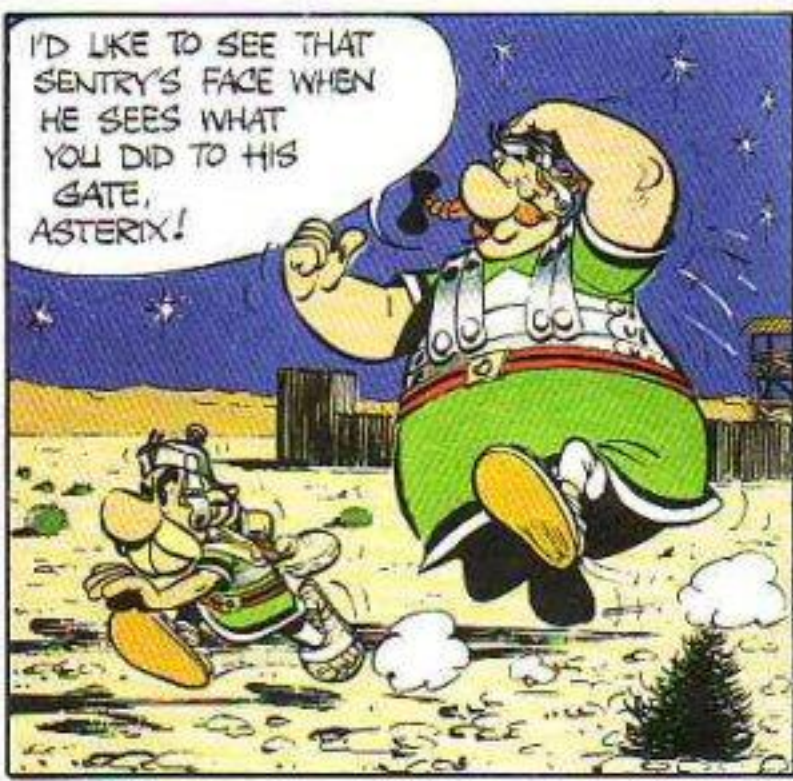
THAT'S RIGHT. WE'RE LAW-ABIDING ROMAN LEGIONARIES, WE ARE!

WE ROMANS ARE CRAZY!

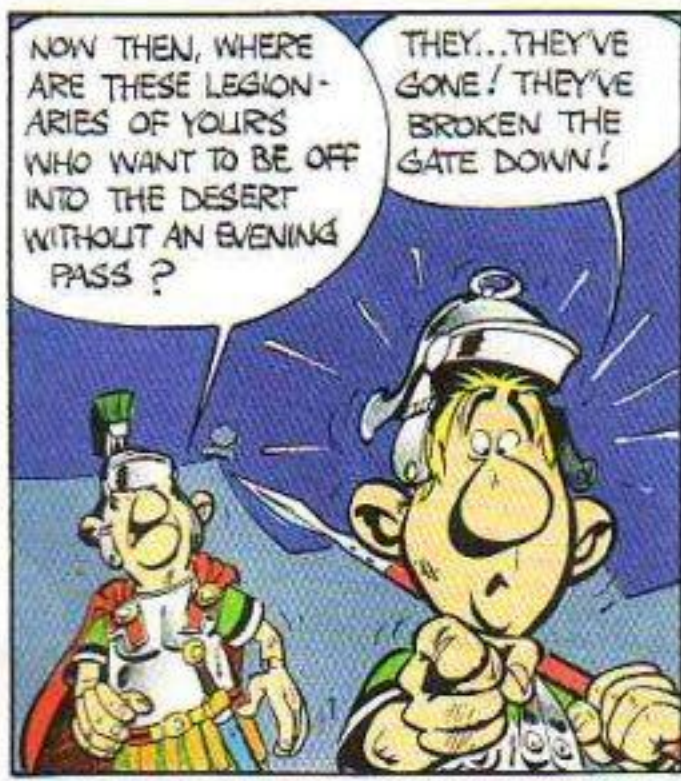


CRACK!

NOW LET'S NOT WASTE ANY MORE TIME!

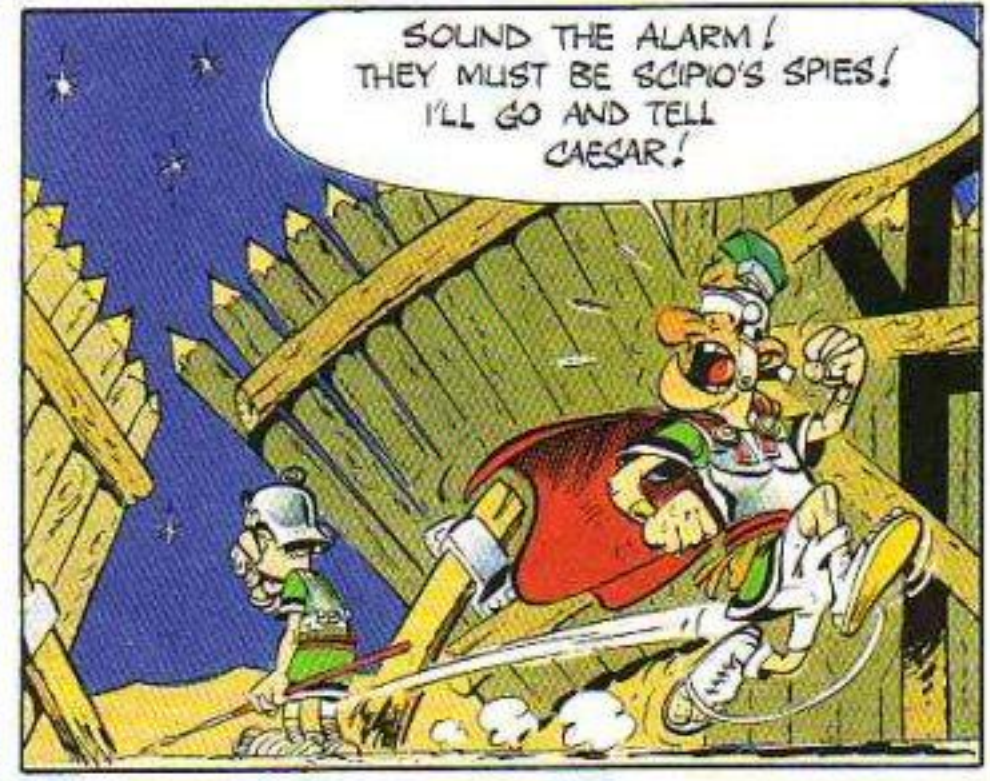


I'D LIKE TO SEE THAT SENTRY'S FACE WHEN HE SEES WHAT YOU DID TO HIS GATE, ASTERIX!



NOW THEN, WHERE ARE THESE LEGIONARIES OF YOURS WHO WANT TO BE OFF INTO THE DESERT WITHOUT AN EVENING PASS?

THEY...THEY'VE GONE! THEY'VE BROKEN THE GATE DOWN!



SOUND THE ALARM! THEY MUST BE SCIPIO'S SPIES! I'LL GO AND TELL CAESAR!



SOON AFTERWARDS...

THESE MEN MUST BE CAPTURED BEFORE THEY CAN CONTACT THE ENEMY!



BUT OUR FRIENDS ARE ALREADY ABOUT TO CONTACT THE ENEMY... TO BE PRECISE, ONE OF SCIPIO'S PATROLS...

TWO ROMANS!

SO WHAT? THAT DOESN'T MEAN A THING; WERE ROMANS TOO

THAT'S THE TROUBLE WITH THESE CIVIL WARS

NOT GOING TO START CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS, ARE YOU?



HEY! YOU TWO! GIVE THE PASSWORD!

WHY, AREN'T YOU IN THE KNOW?



I SHOULD THINK I AM! COGITO, ERGO SUM

RIGHT. PASS, FRIEND!



THANKS. COME ALONG...



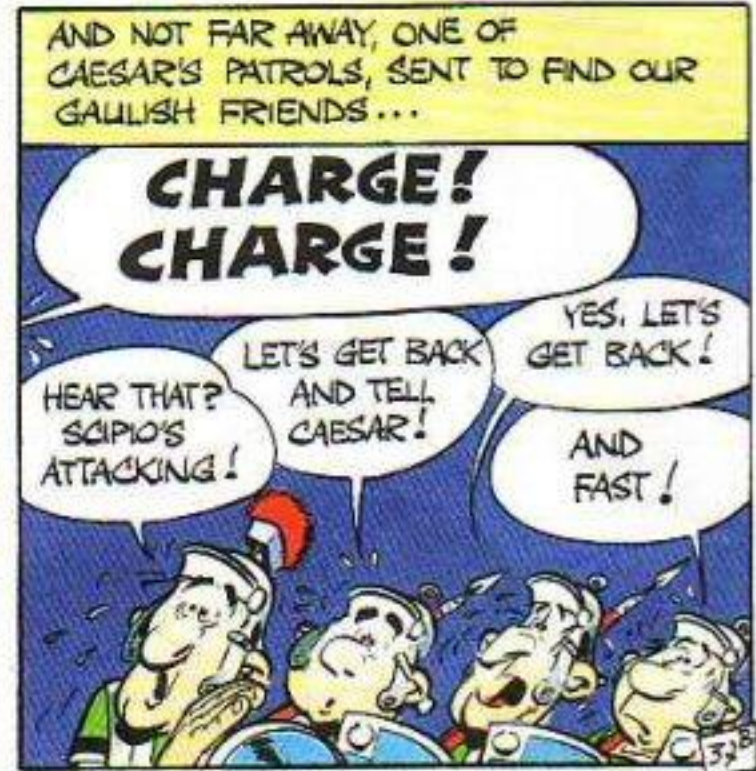
HEY! WAIT A MINUTE! THIS WON'T DO!



CHARGE! CHARGE!

YOU LOOK AFTER THE OTHERS, OBELIX!

COME ON THEN... CHARGE!



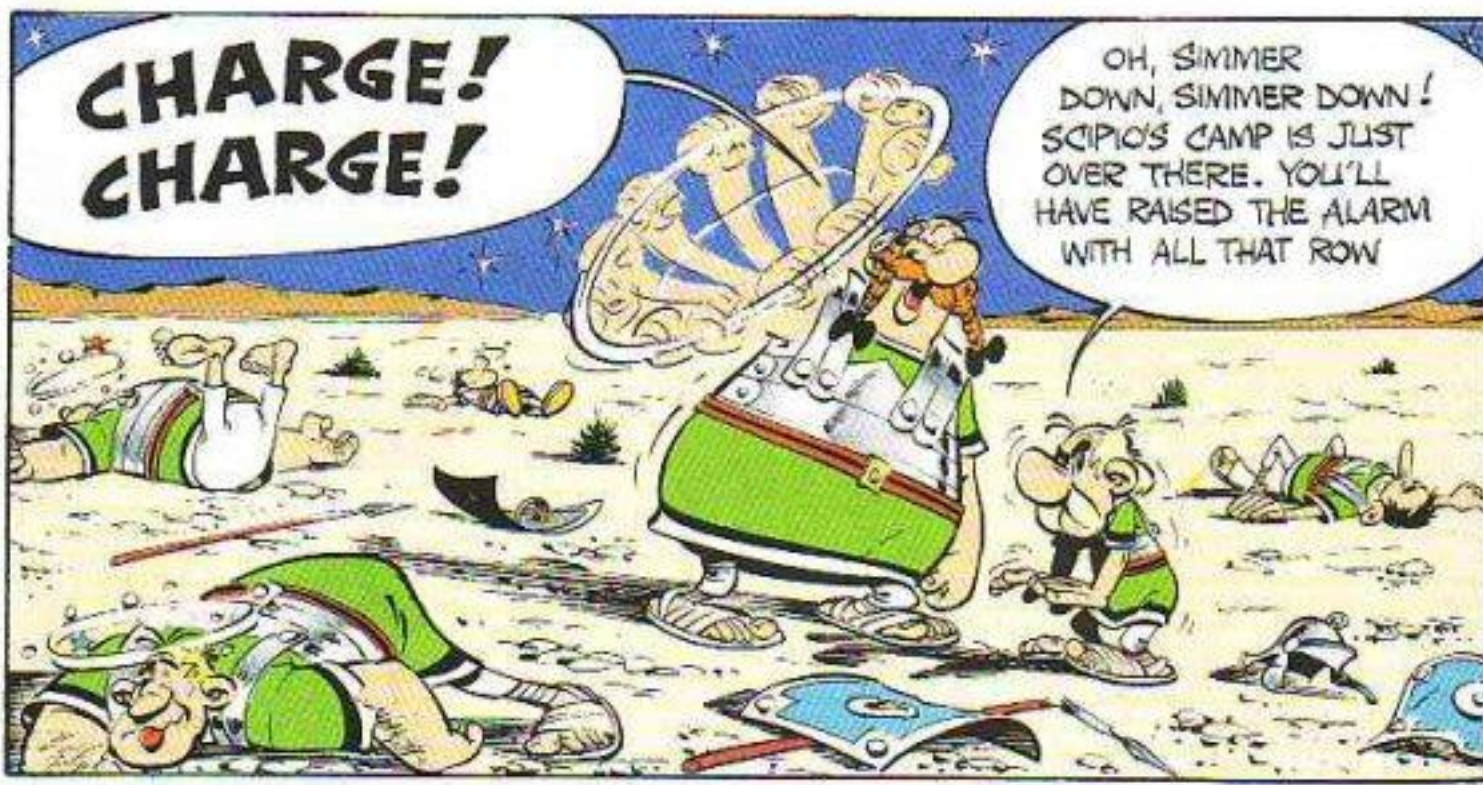
AND NOT FAR AWAY, ONE OF CAESAR'S PATROLS, SENT TO FIND OUR GAULISH FRIENDS...

CHARGE! CHARGE!

HEAR THAT? SCIPIO'S ATTACKING! LET'S GET BACK AND TELL CAESAR!

YES, LET'S GET BACK!

AND FAST!



**CHARGE!
CHARGE!**

OH, SIMMER
DOWN, SIMMER DOWN!
SCIPIO'S CAMP IS JUST
OVER THERE. YOU'LL
HAVE RAISED THE ALARM
WITH ALL THAT ROW



NEVER MIND!
LET'S STRIKE
NOW!

I CALL THAT CUNNING
STRATEGY!



MEANWHILE, IN
CAESAR'S CAMP...

SCIPIO'S ATTACKING?
HE'S FORCING MY
HAND... PERHAPS IT'S
ALL FOR THE BEST!
WE'LL ATTACK!



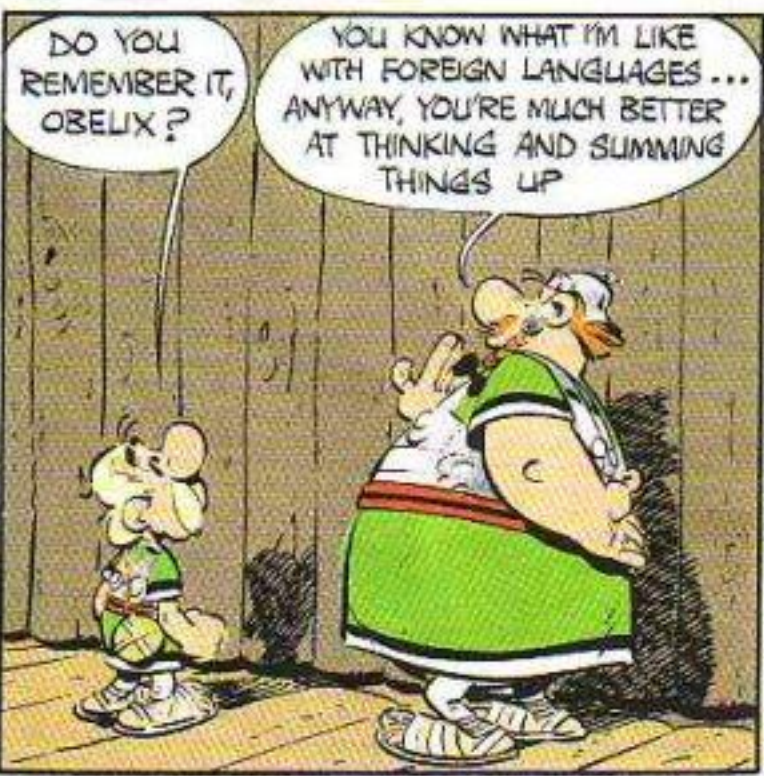
ALEA JACTA
EST, AS I
ALWAYS SAY



AND OUTSIDE
SCIPIO'S CAMP...

GIVE THE
PASSWORD!

OPEN UP!



DO YOU
REMEMBER IT,
OBELIX?

YOU KNOW WHAT I'M LIKE
WITH FOREIGN LANGUAGES...
ANYWAY, YOU'RE MUCH BETTER
AT THINKING AND SUMMING
THINGS UP

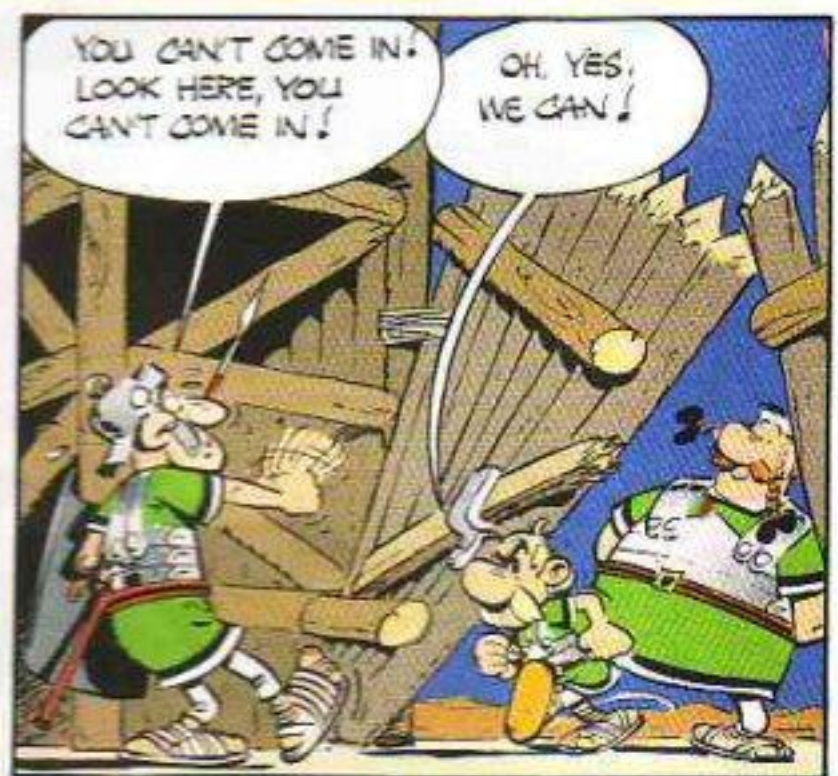


NEVER MIND!

OI!

IT'S FUN OPENING
GATES THIS WAY,
ISN'T IT?

BONG!



YOU CAN'T COME IN.
LOOK HERE, YOU
CAN'T COME IN!

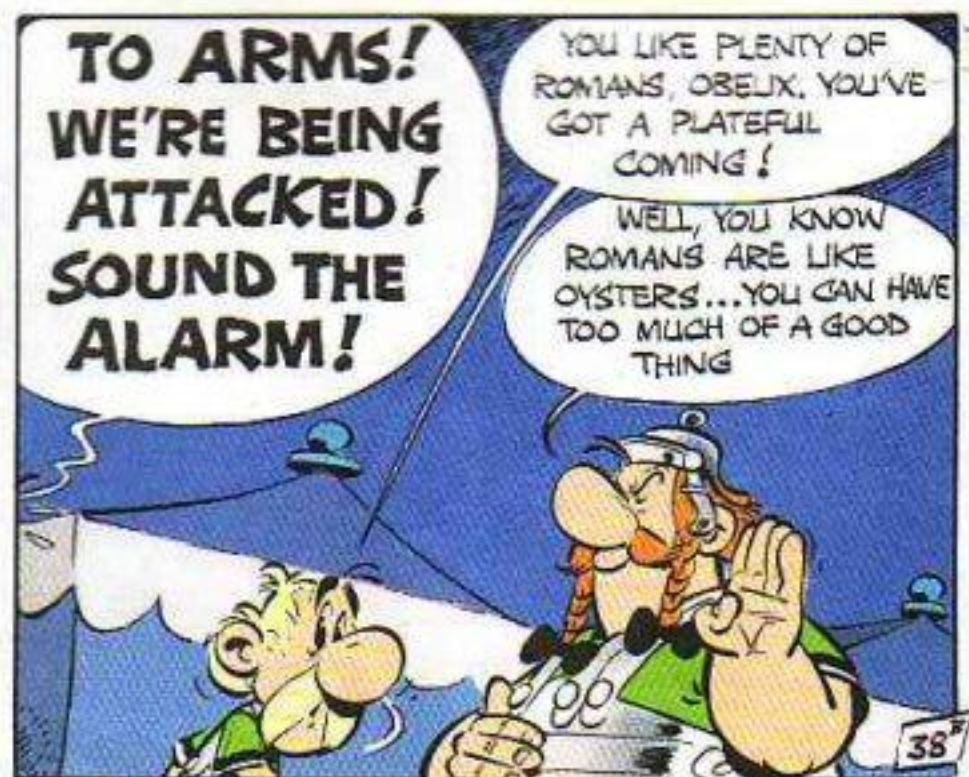
OH, YES,
WE CAN!



STOP...
HANG ON!



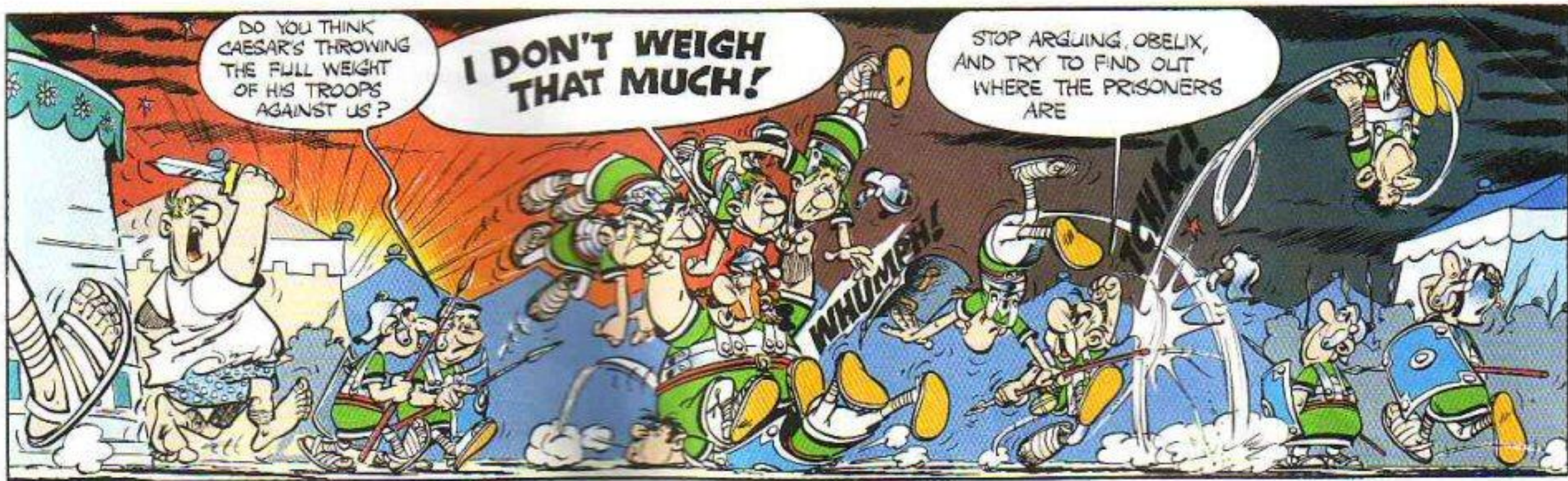
I'VE GOT IT!
COGITO,
ERGO
SUM...



**TO ARMS!
WE'RE BEING
ATTACKED!
SOUND THE
ALARM!**

YOU LIKE PLENTY OF
ROMANS, OBELIX. YOU'VE
GOT A PLETFUL
COMING!

WELL, YOU KNOW
ROMANS ARE LIKE
OYSTERS... YOU CAN HAVE
TOO MUCH OF A GOOD
THING



DO YOU THINK CAESAR'S THROWING THE FULL WEIGHT OF HIS TROOPS AGAINST US?

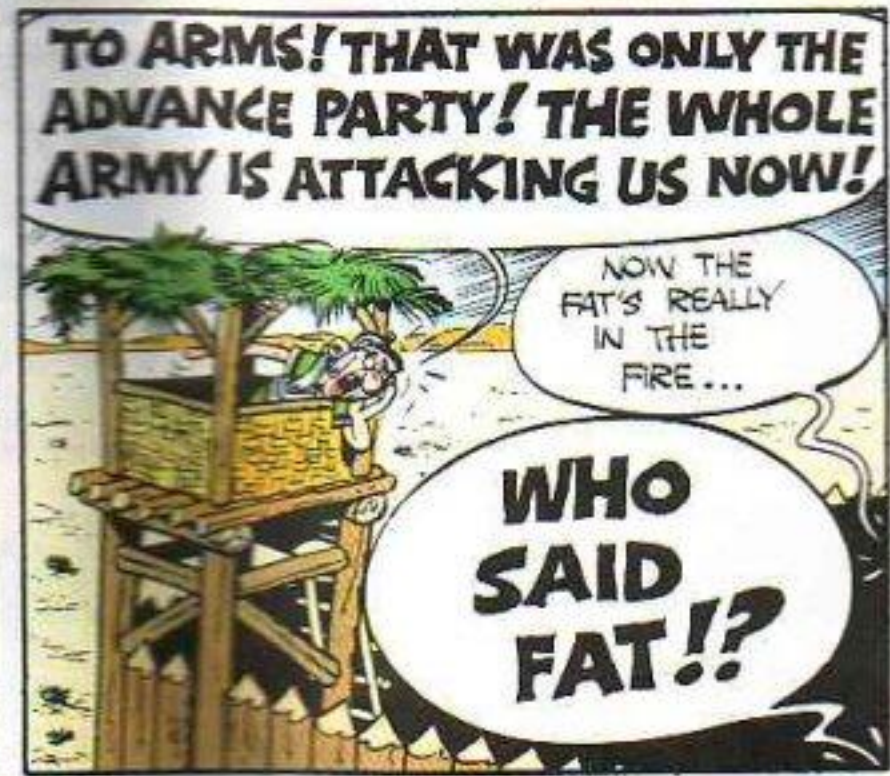
I DON'T WEIGH THAT MUCH!

STOP ARGUING, OBELIX, AND TRY TO FIND OUT WHERE THE PRISONERS ARE



PAF!

IT'S NO GOOD, ASTERIX. THEY WON'T ANSWER BEFORE YOU HIT THEM AND THEY CAN'T ANSWER AFTERWARDS



TO ARMS! THAT WAS ONLY THE ADVANCE PARTY! THE WHOLE ARMY IS ATTACKING US NOW!

NOW THE FAT'S REALLY IN THE FIRE...

WHO SAID FAT!?



O SOPIO, JULIUS CAESAR'S ARMY IS ATTACKING US!

VERY WELL, WE'LL GO OUT TO MEET IT! DOWN WITH THE USURPER! LET'S MAKE A SORTIE!



CHARGE!

LET'S GET AT THEM!

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

WHAT ABOUT US, THEN?

IF YOU DON'T MIND... I'VE SORT OF GOT TO MAKE A SORTIE...



ONE LAST WORD... WHERE ARE THE PRISONERS?

IN THE ENCLOSURE OVER THERE. DO LET GO NOW, THEY'RE WAITING FOR ME



IS TRAGICOMIX HERE?

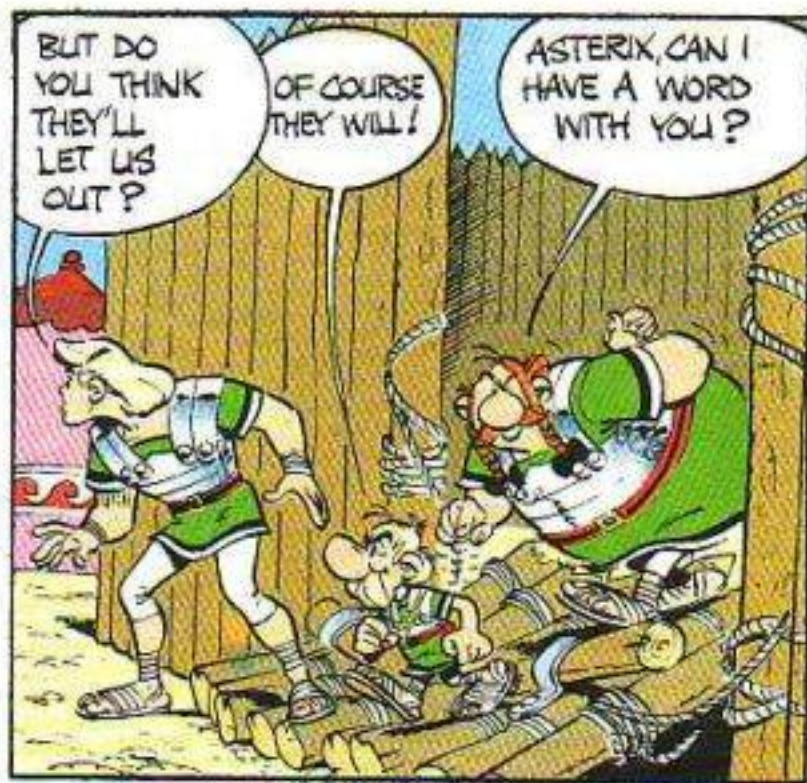
THAT'S ME



WE'VE COME TO LOOK FOR YOU. PANACEA SENT US

HOW WONDERFUL! THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

DON'T MENTION IT!



BUT DO YOU THINK THEY'LL LET US OUT?

OF COURSE THEY WILL!

ASTERIX, CAN I HAVE A WORD WITH YOU?



WHAT IS IT?

DO YOU HONESTLY THINK HE'S ALL THAT GOOD-LOOKING?



WHAT ON EARTH'S HAPPENING? THE CAMP'S DESERTED!

IT'S ONLY THE ROMANS FIGHTING EACH OTHER...NOTHING TO DO WITH US

IDIOT? WHAT DID HE MEAN, IDIOT?

WE HAVE ALREADY BEEN PRIVILEGED TO SHOW YOU ROMAN LEGIONARIES ENGAGED IN MANOEUVRES. WE NOW HAVE THE ADDITIONAL PLEASURE OF PRESENTING ROMAN LEGIONARIES ENGAGED IN MANOEUVRES AGAINST ROMAN LEGIONARIES...

FORM A PHALANX!

FORM A QUINCUNX!

FORM A TORTOISE!

FORM A SQUARE!

FORM A CIRCLE!



WAIT A MINUTE! DON'T KNOW YOU, DO I?

HEY, ISN'T THIS CAESAR'S TORTOISE?

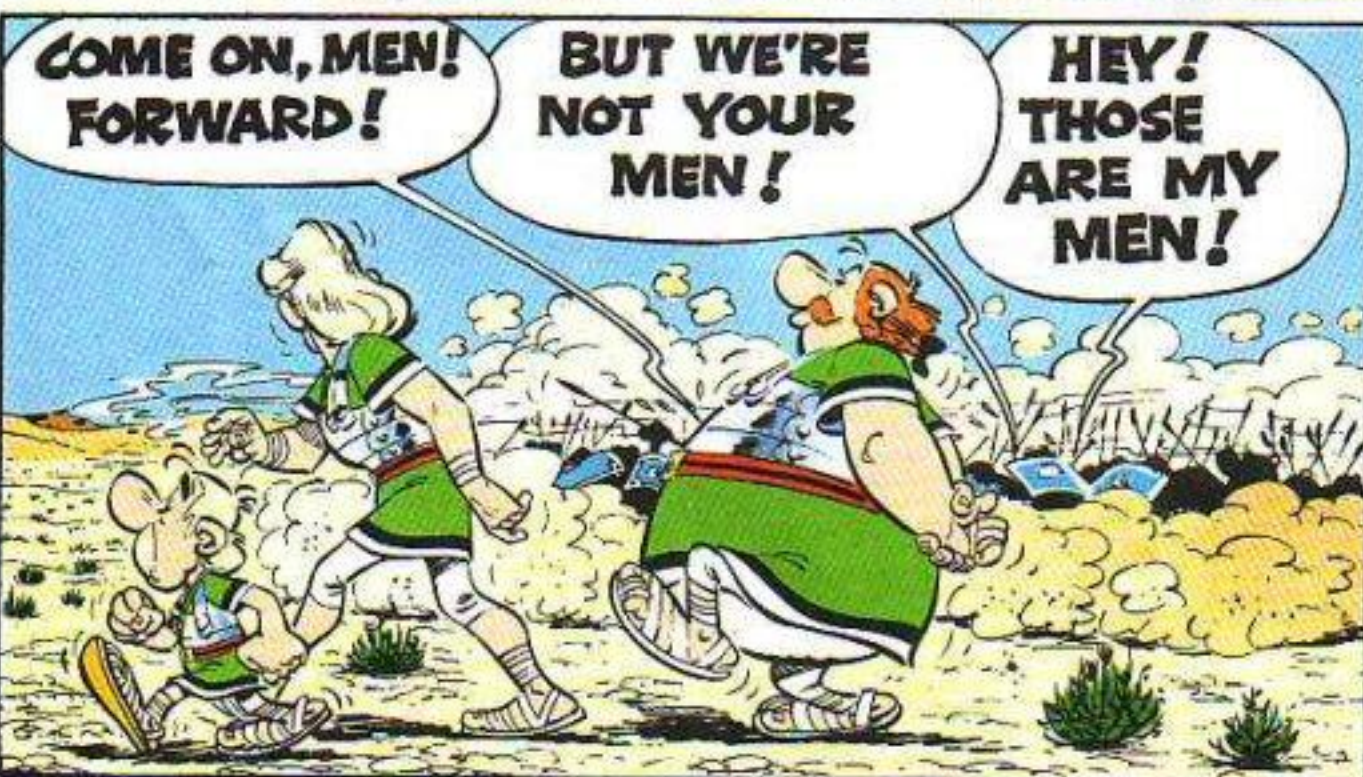
NO IT ISN'T!

YES IT IS!



HE WANTS TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON

TELL HIM THEY'RE AS CONFUSED AS HE IS!



COME ON, MEN! FORWARD!

BUT WE'RE NOT YOUR MEN!

HEY! THOSE ARE MY MEN!

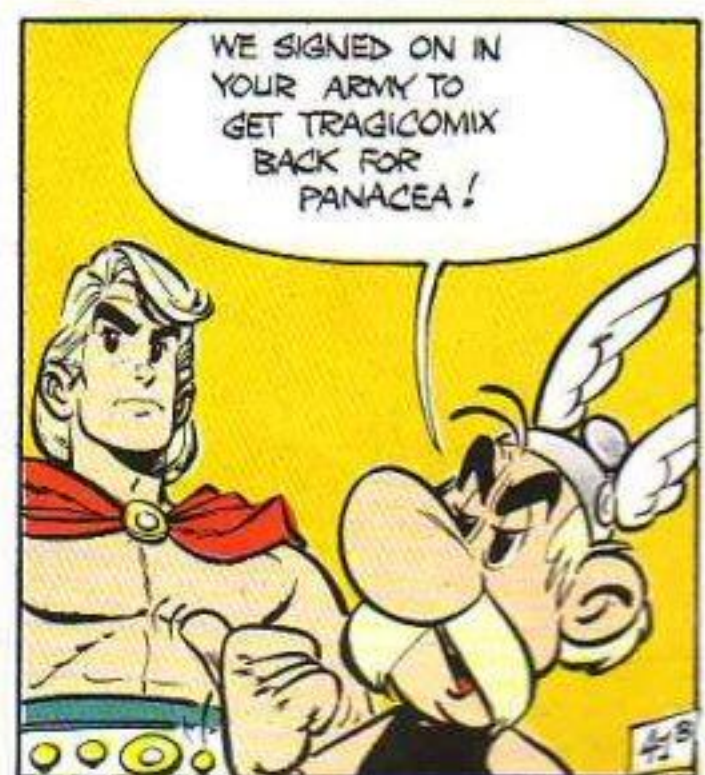
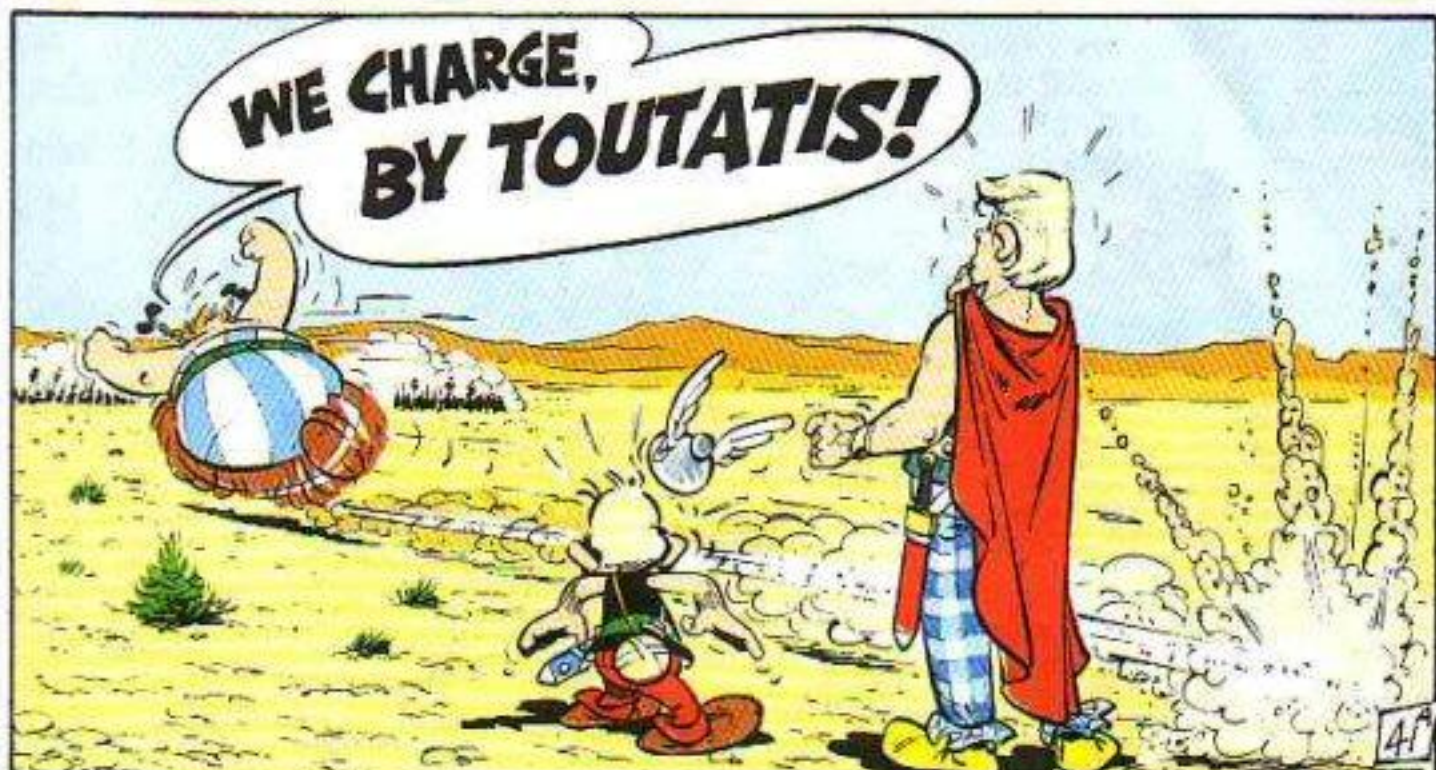
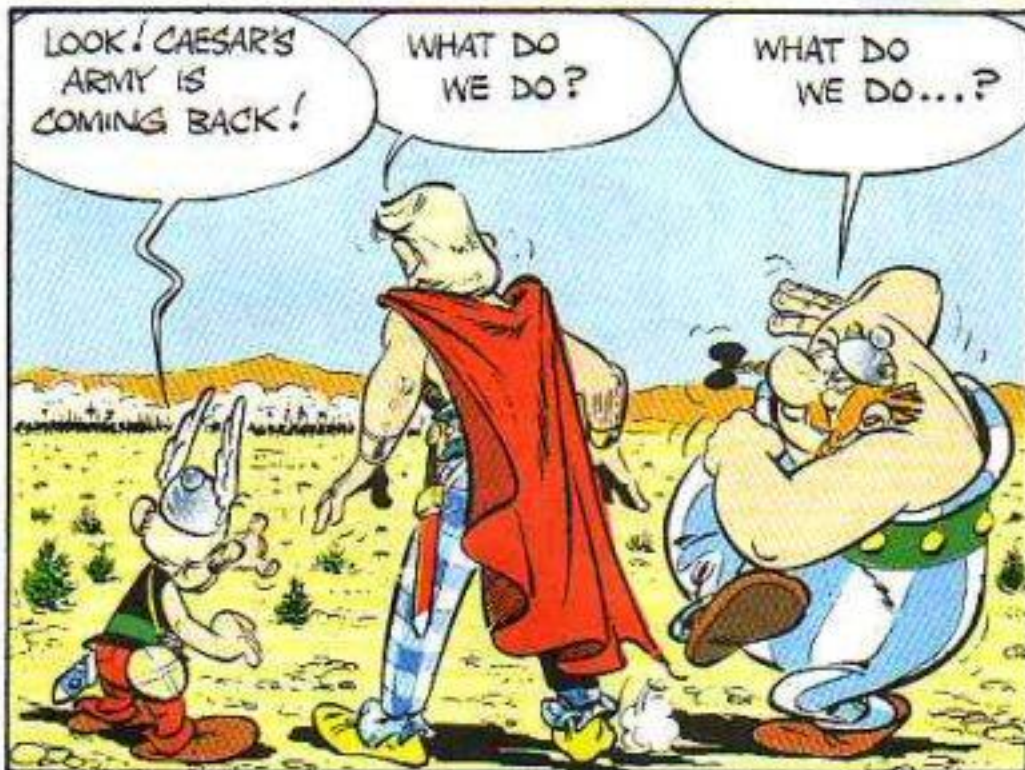
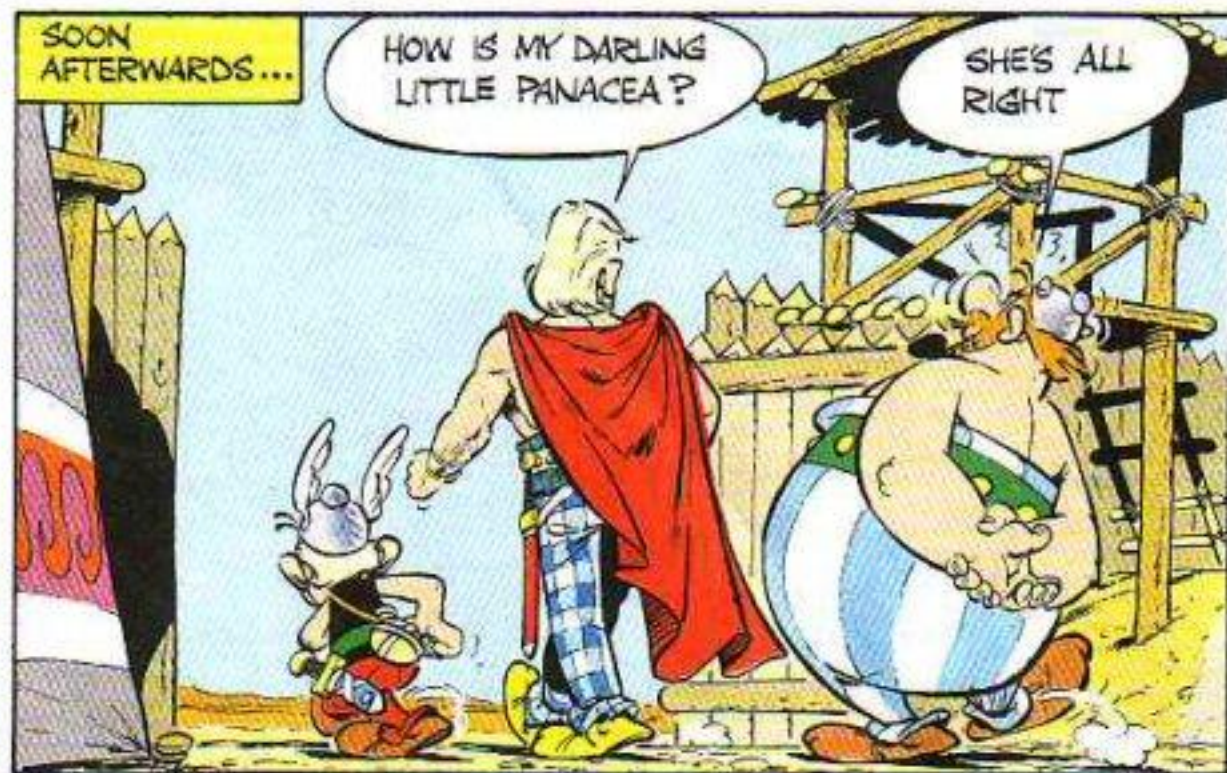
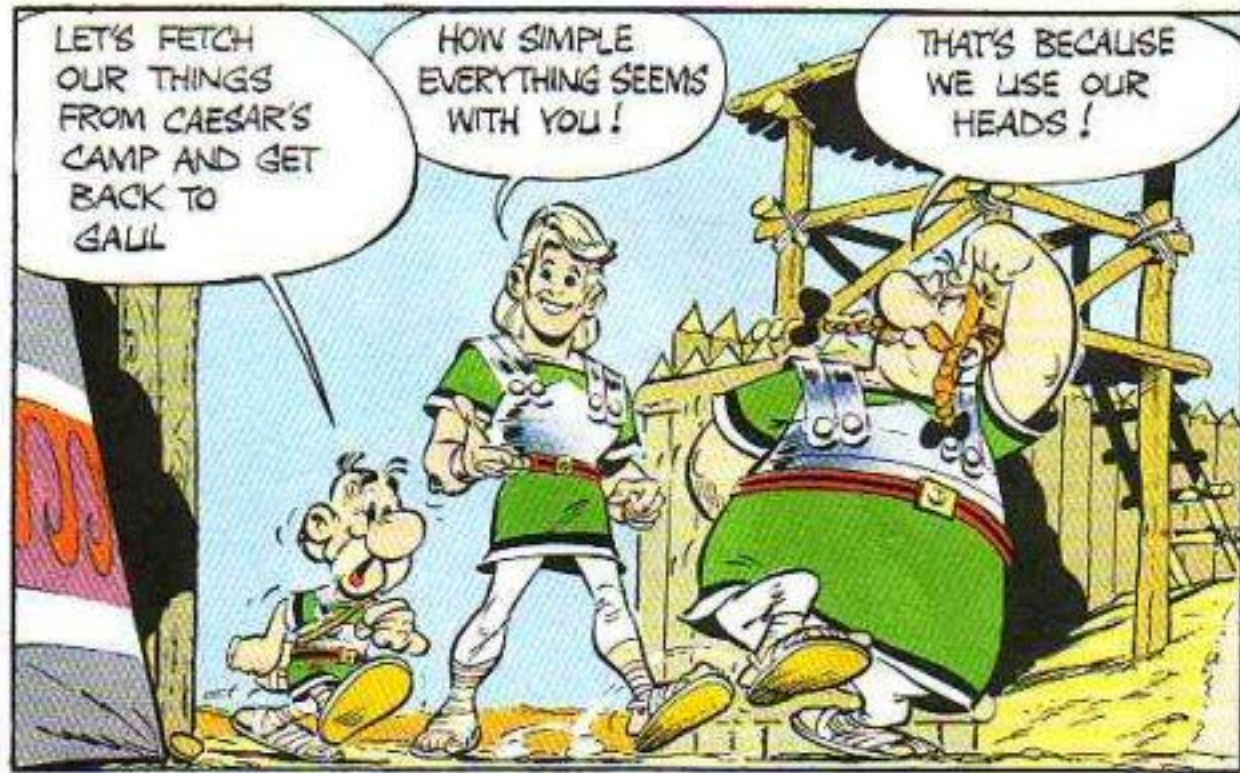


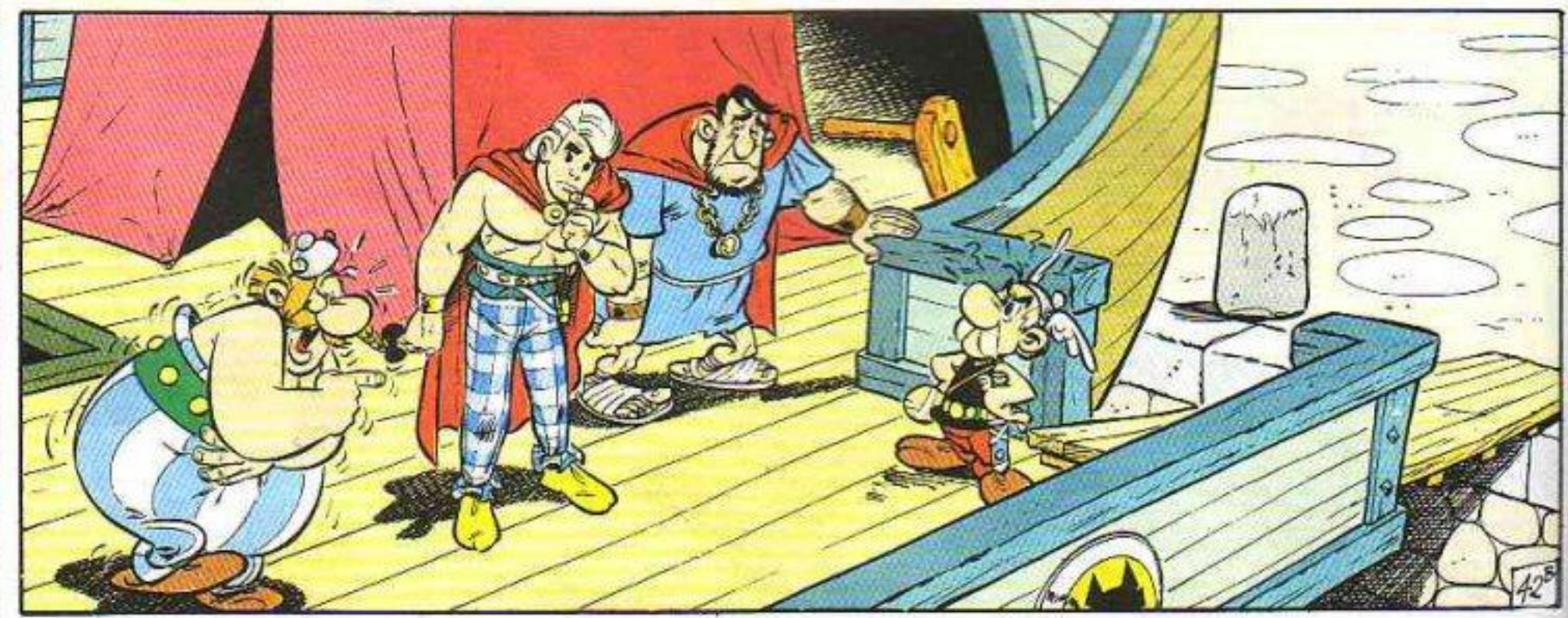
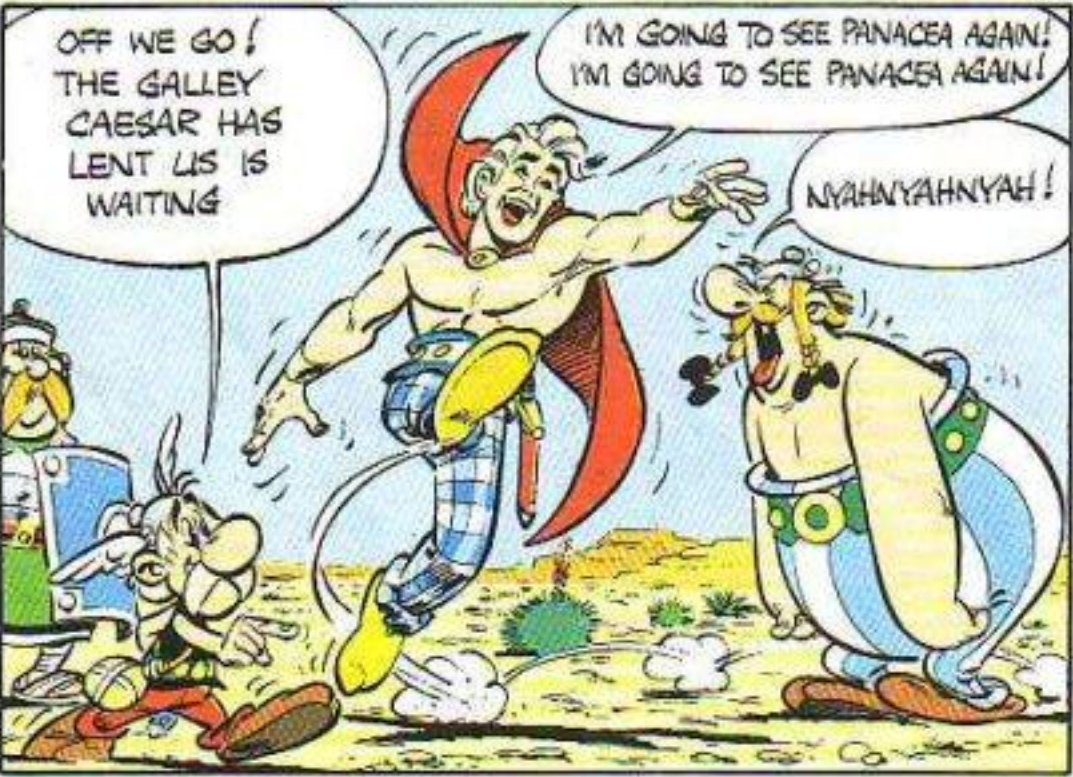
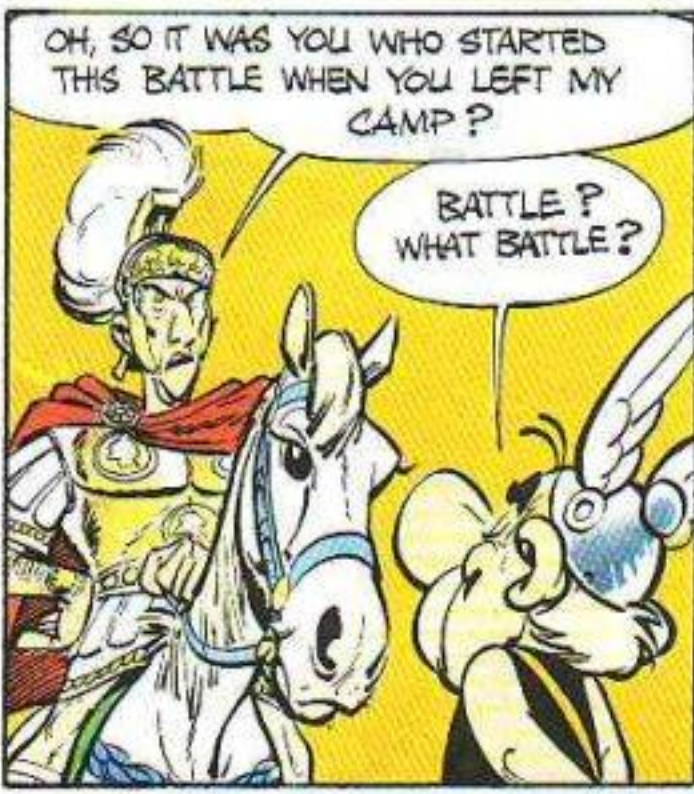
FINALLY SCIPIO, HEARTILY SICK OF THE WHOLE AFFAIR, SIGNALS THE RETREAT. JULIUS CAESAR HAS WON!

IT'S NOT FAIR! I'M OFF! SOUND THE RETREAT!

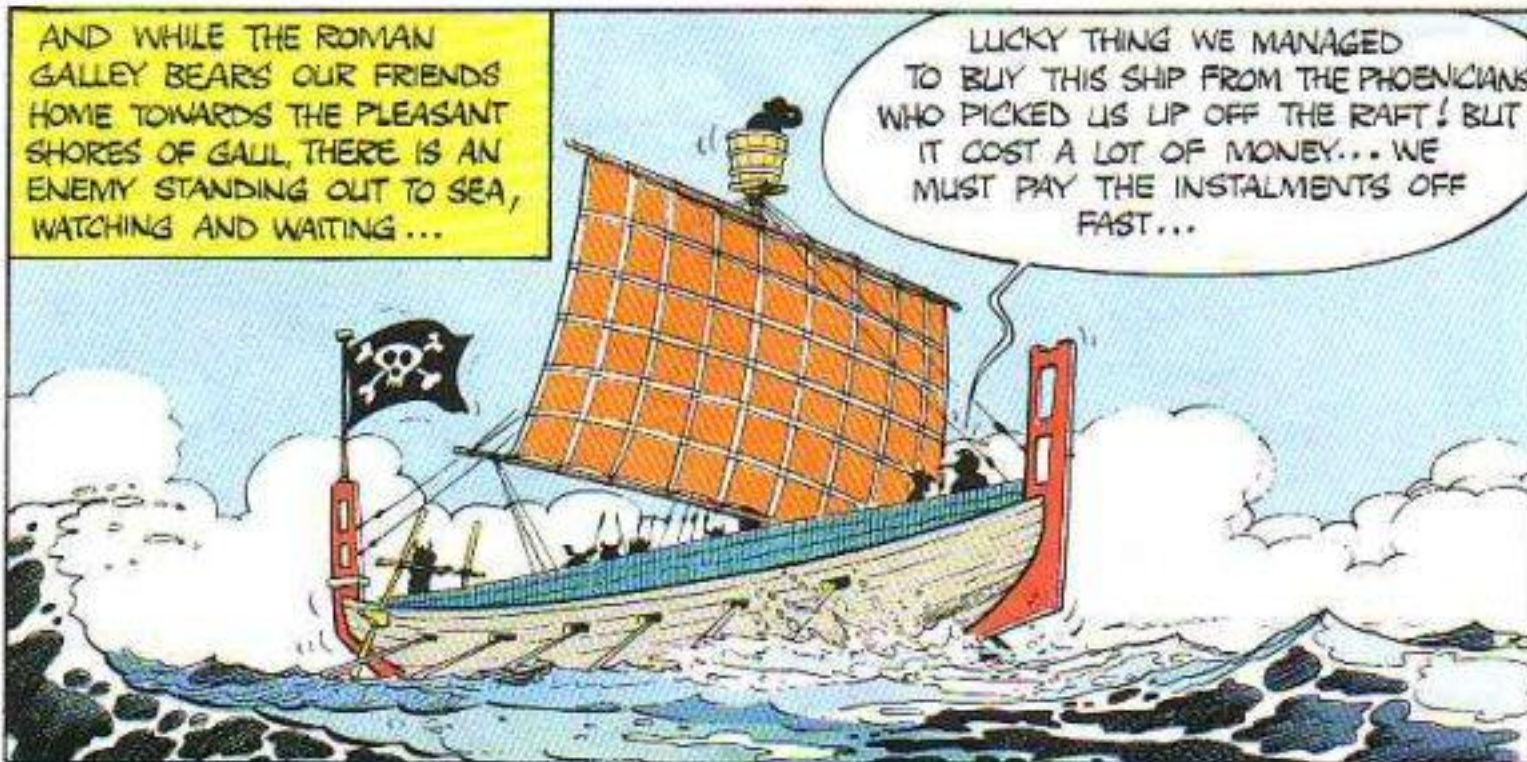
I ONLY TAKE ORDERS FROM CAESAR!

OH, SHUT UP! HE'S TALKING TO ME!

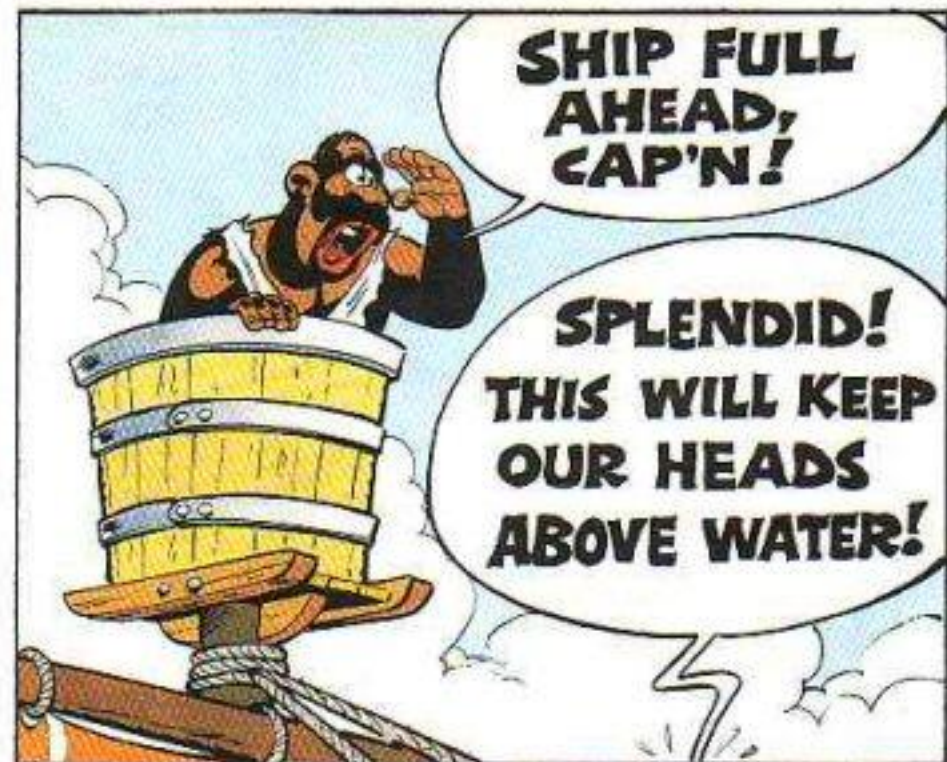




AND WHILE THE ROMAN GALLEY BEARS OUR FRIENDS HOME TOWARDS THE PLEASANT SHORES OF GALL, THERE IS AN ENEMY STANDING OUT TO SEA, WATCHING AND WAITING...



LUCKY THING WE MANAGED TO BUY THIS SHIP FROM THE PHOENICIANS WHO PICKED US UP OFF THE RAFT! BUT IT COST A LOT OF MONEY... WE MUST PAY THE INSTALMENTS OFF FAST...



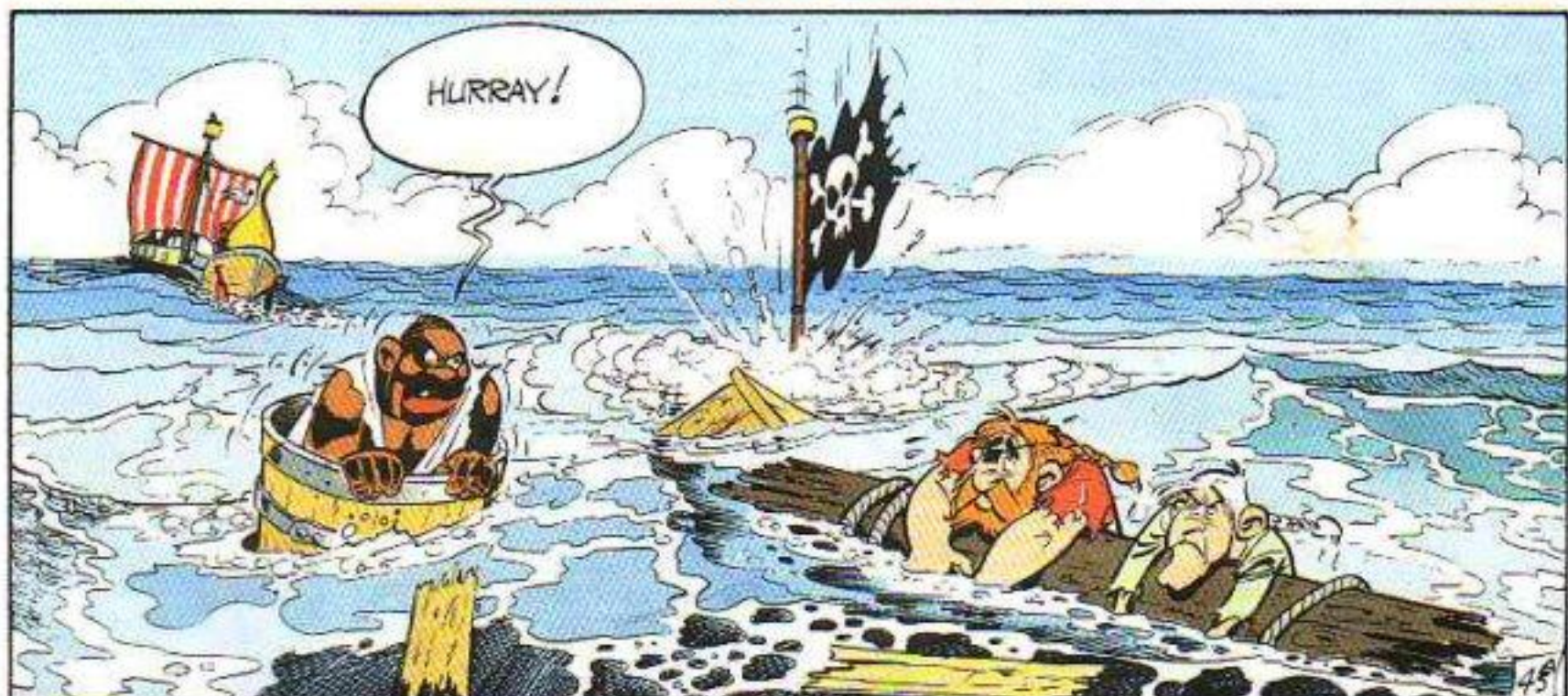
SHIP FULL AHEAD, CAP'N!

SPLENDID! THIS WILL KEEP OUR HEADS ABOVE WATER!

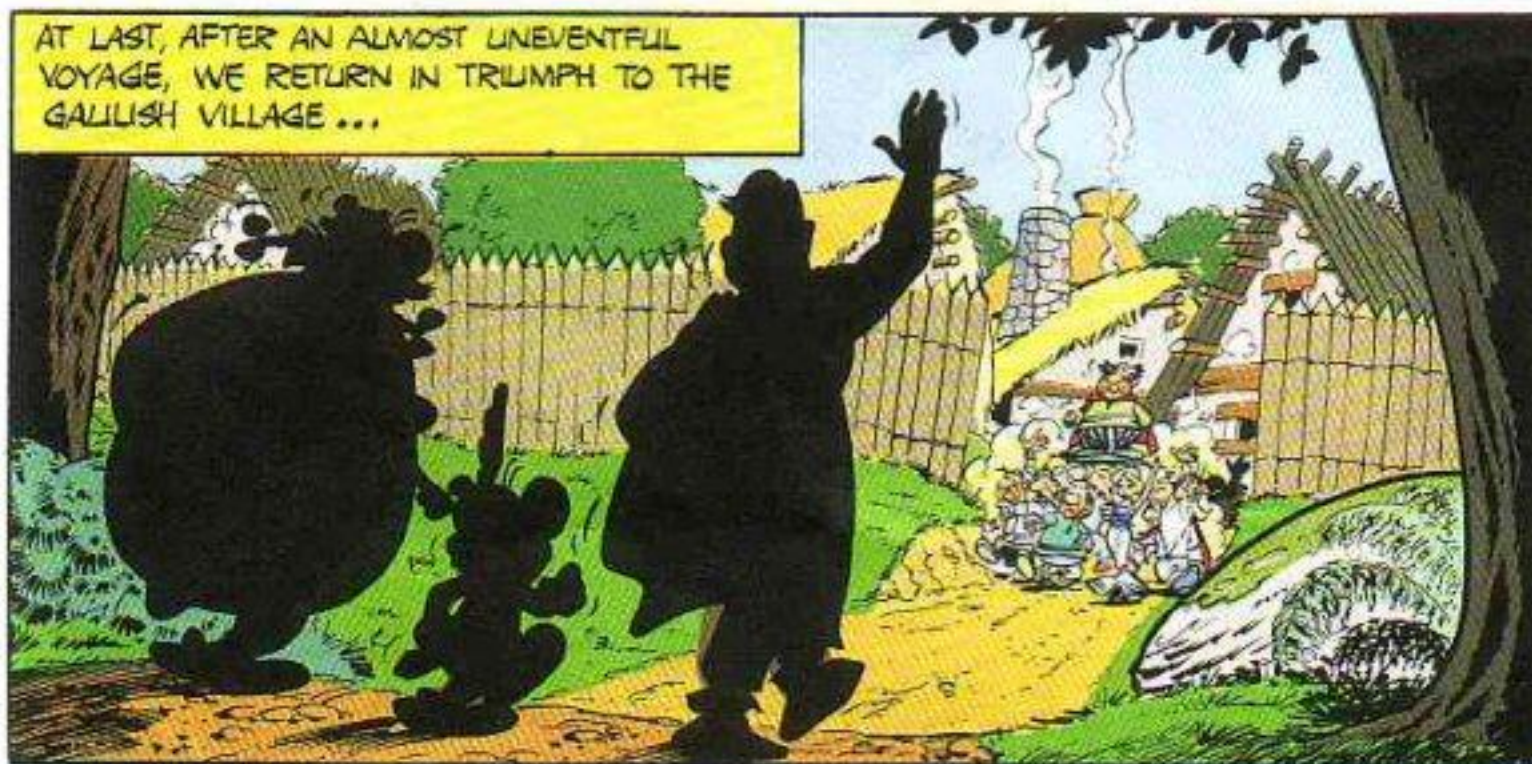
FOLLOW ME, ME HEARTIES! HIP HIP...



HURRAY!



AT LAST, AFTER AN ALMOST UNEVENTFUL VOYAGE, WE RETURN IN TRIUMPH TO THE GALLISH VILLAGE...



PANACEA!

DOGMATIX!



OH, THANK YOU, THANK YOU! HOW CAN I EVER THANK YOU?

IT WAS NOTHING, REALLY...



NOTHING? YOU MUST BE JOKING! YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN THEM, PANACEA! THEY WERE GREAT! FANTASTIC! OBELIX ATTACKED CAESAR'S ARMY ALL BY HIMSELF!

OH, WELL, IT WAS JUST A LITTLE ARMY YOU KNOW...

