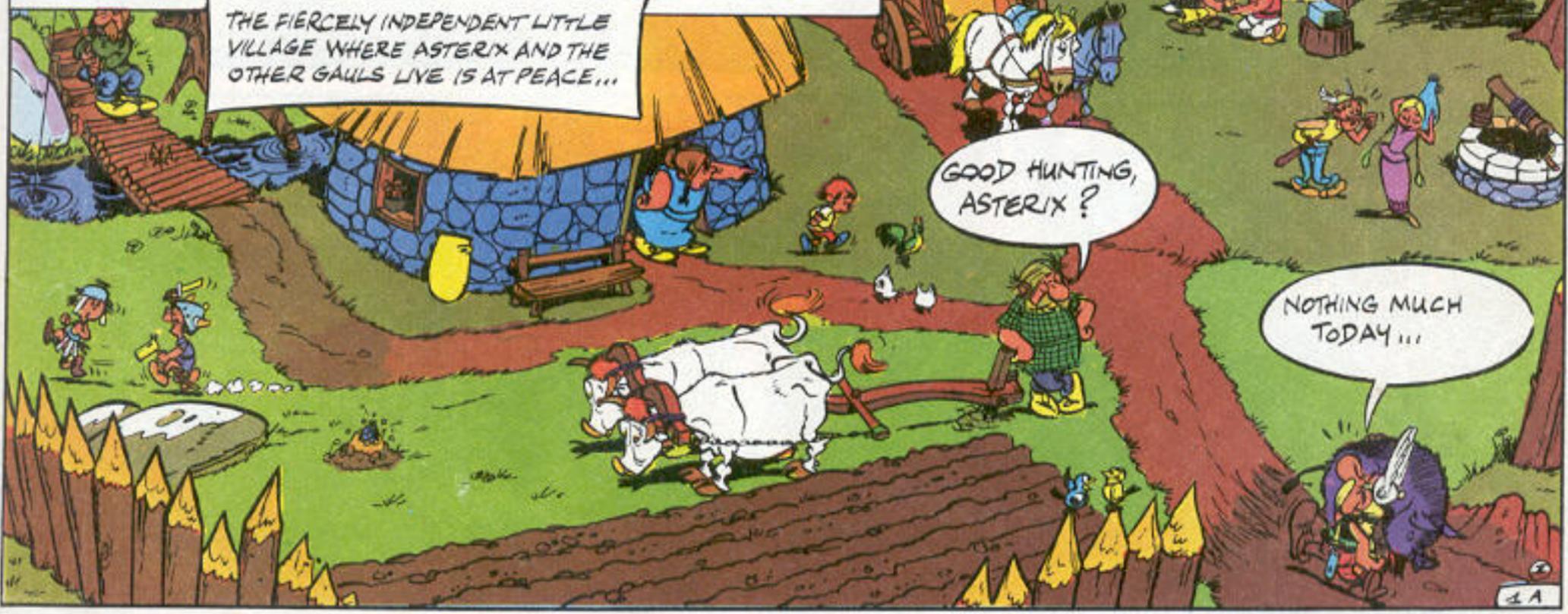
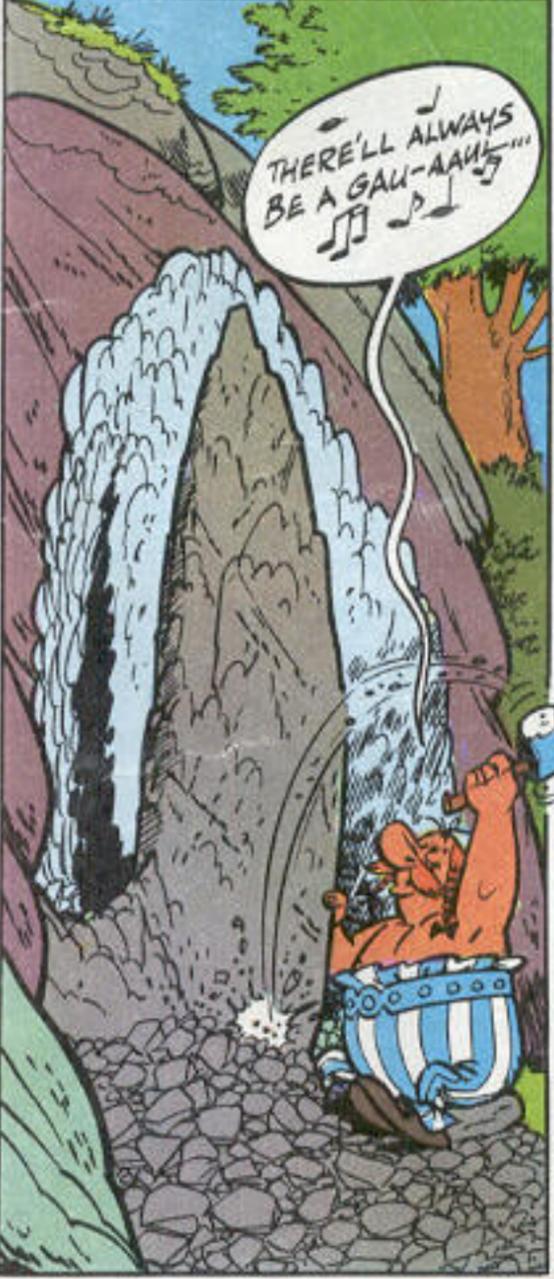


Asterix and the Golden Sickle

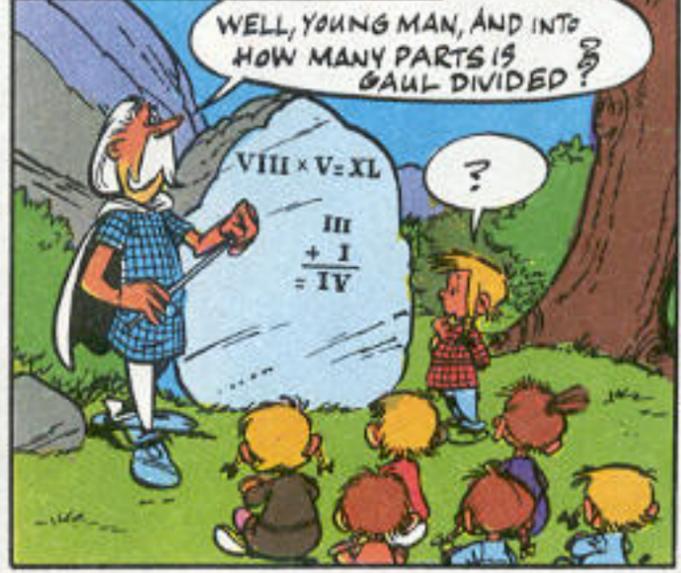
THE FIERCELY INDEPENDENT LITTLE VILLAGE WHERE ASTERIX AND THE OTHER GAULS LIVE IS AT PEACE...



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



CACOFONIX THE BARD IS GIVING THE CHILDREN LESSONS...

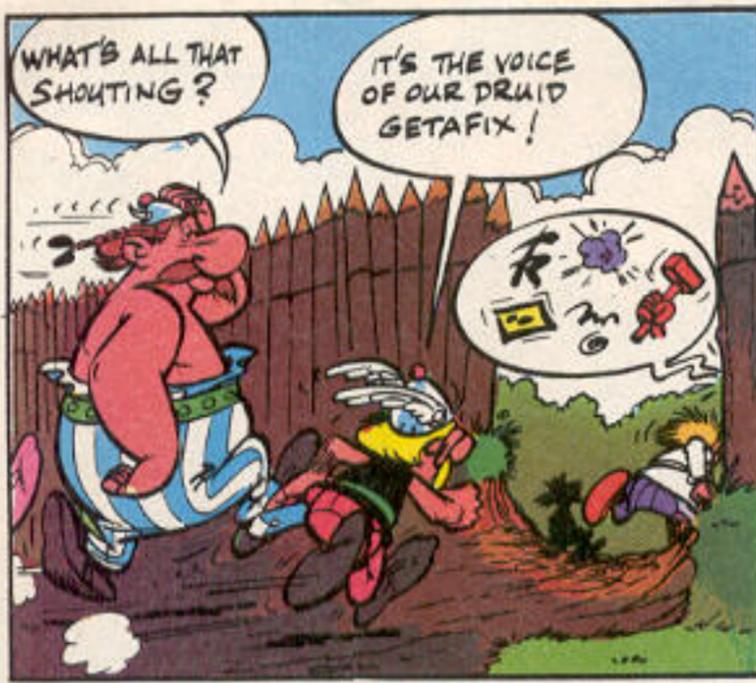


IN SHORT, EVERYONE IS CONTENTED. ALL IS PEACE AND PLENTY...



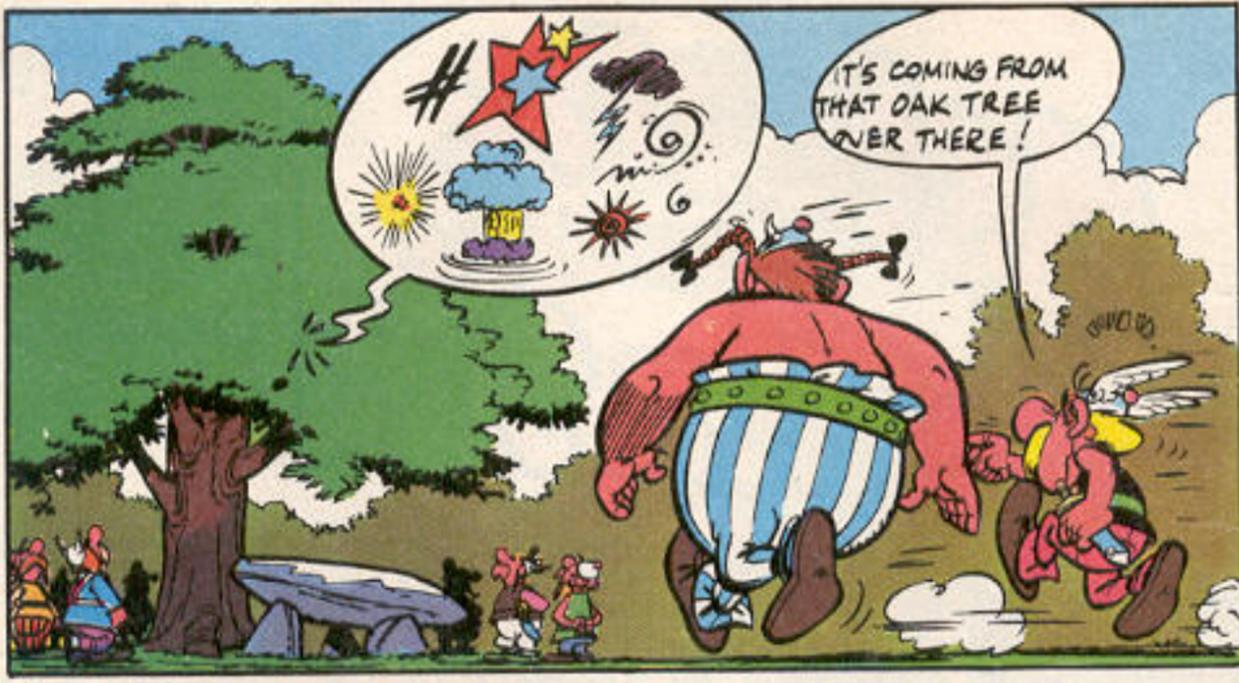
WHEN SUDDENLY...





WHAT'S ALL THAT SHOUTING?

IT'S THE VOICE OF OUR DRUID GETAFIX!



IT'S COMING FROM THAT OAK TREE OVER THERE!

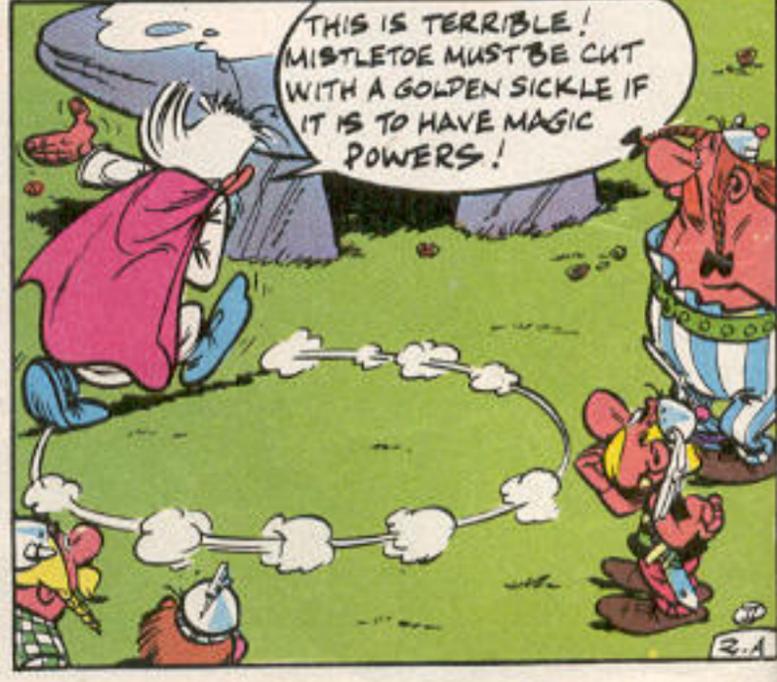


SCRNGNGNORRR... ARCHRGHGHN... GNEUGNEU...

WHAT'S THE MATTER, O DRUID?



BY BELENOS, TOKTATIS AND BELISAMA! I'VE BROKEN MY GOLDEN SICKLE!



THIS IS TERRIBLE! MISTLETOE MUST BE CUT WITH A GOLDEN SICKLE IF IT IS TO HAVE MAGIC POWERS!



IT COULDN'T BE WORSE TIMED! I HAVE TO START SOON FOR THE FOREST OF THE CARNUTES TO ATTEND THE GREAT ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF GAULISH DRUIDS. I CAN'T GO WITHOUT A SICKLE!



ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS BUY ANOTHER ONE!

GOOD SICKLES DON'T GROW ON TREES!



THE BEST, INDEED THE ONLY ONES I CONSIDER WORTH USING, ARE MADE BY THE FAMOUS METALLURGIX, IN FARAWAY LUTETIA...



HE'S RIGHT, IT'S WELL KNOWN THAT METALLURGIX MAKES THE BEST SICKLES...

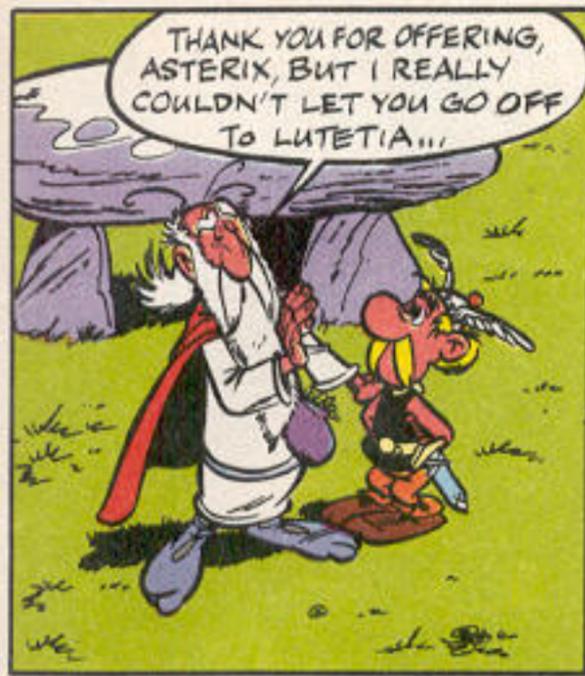
YOU'RE RIGHT THERE...



AND LUTETIA IS A LONG WAY OFF... YOU HAVE TO PASS THROUGH FORESTS FULL OF BARBARIANS AND BANDITS TO GET THERE!



I AM PREPARED TO GO TO LUTETIA, O DRUID!



THANK YOU FOR OFFERING, ASTERIX, BUT I REALLY COULDN'T LET YOU GO OFF TO LUTETIA!!!



I INSIST, O DRUID.

IT'S TOO FAR. TOO DANGEROUS!



OH, WELL, IN THAT CASE!!!



ER... RIGHT! I ACCEPT!

OH!



I'M COMING TOO! METALLURGIX IS A DISTANT COUSIN OF MINE. HE'S THE BIG SUCCESS IN OUR FAMILY.



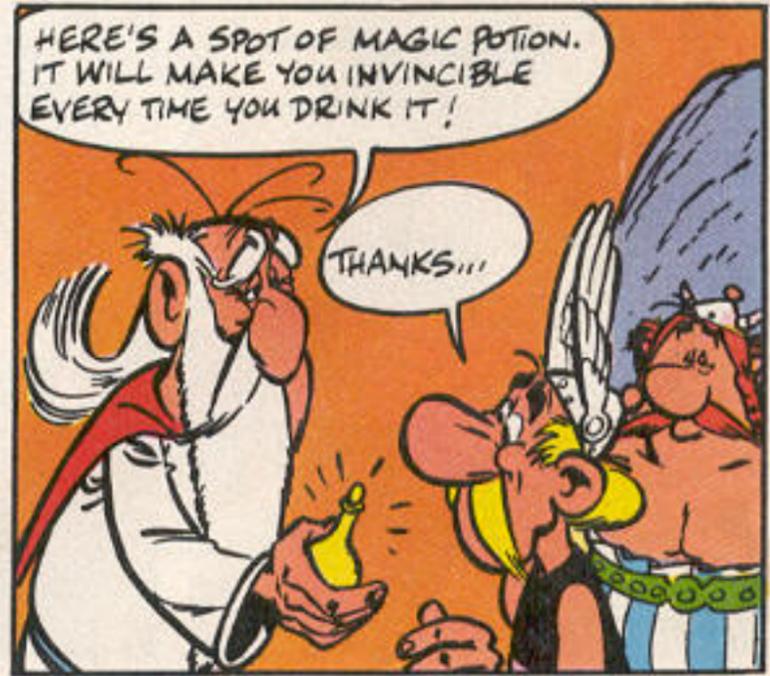
LET'S GET GOING STRAIGHT AWAY!

I'LL TELL THE OTHERS!



BY TOUTATIS AND BELENOS, I WISH YOU A GOOD JOURNEY AND A SPEEDY RETURN WITH A FINE GOLDEN SICKLE FOR OUR DRUID

YOU CAN COUNT ON US, O CHIEF VITALSTATISTIX!



HERE'S A SPOT OF MAGIC POTION. IT WILL MAKE YOU INVINCIBLE EVERY TIME YOU DRINK IT!

THANKS!!!



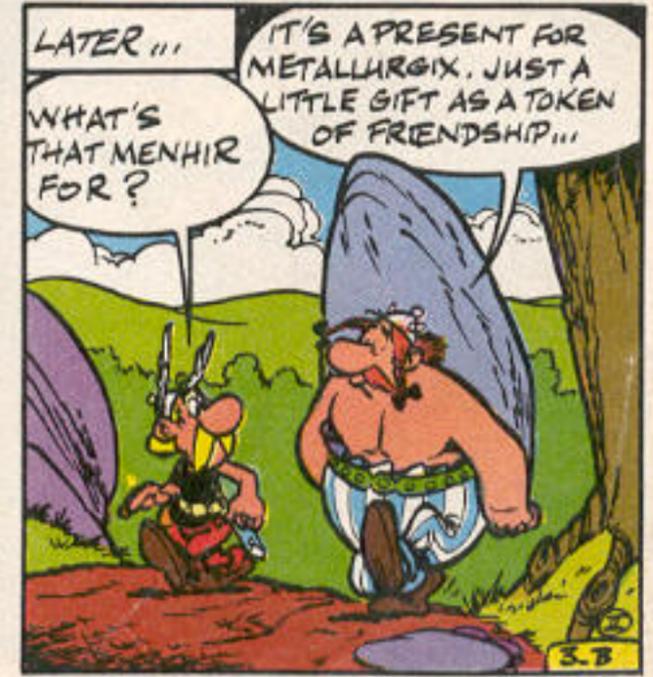
I WILL NOW GIVE YOU A SONG OF FAREWELL!!!



GOODBYE!!!

IT'S GETTING LATE!!!

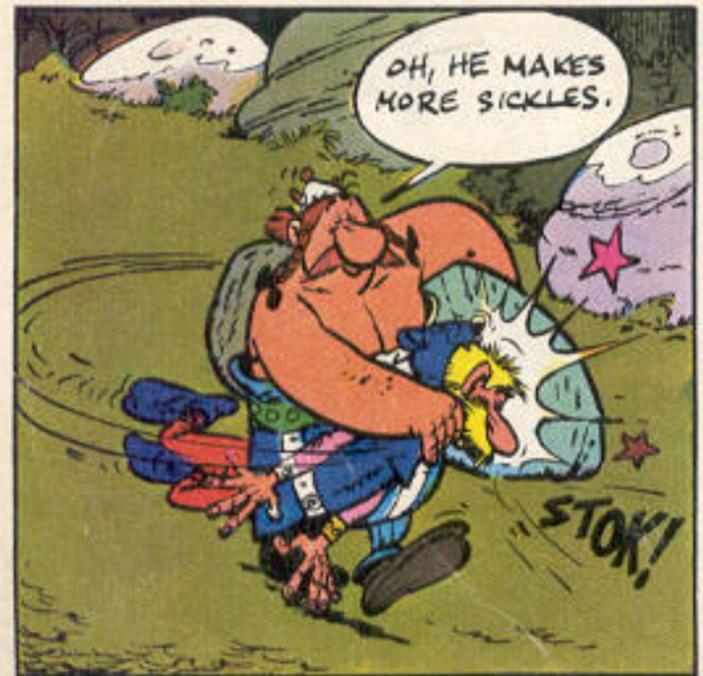
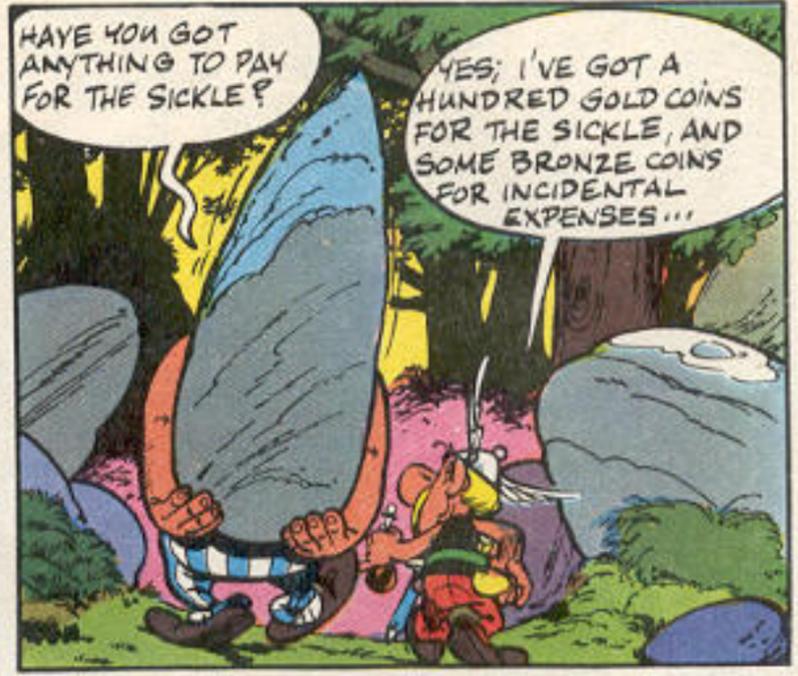
I'VE GOT A WILD BOAR ON THE SPIT!!!



LATER!!!

WHAT'S THAT MENHIR FOR?

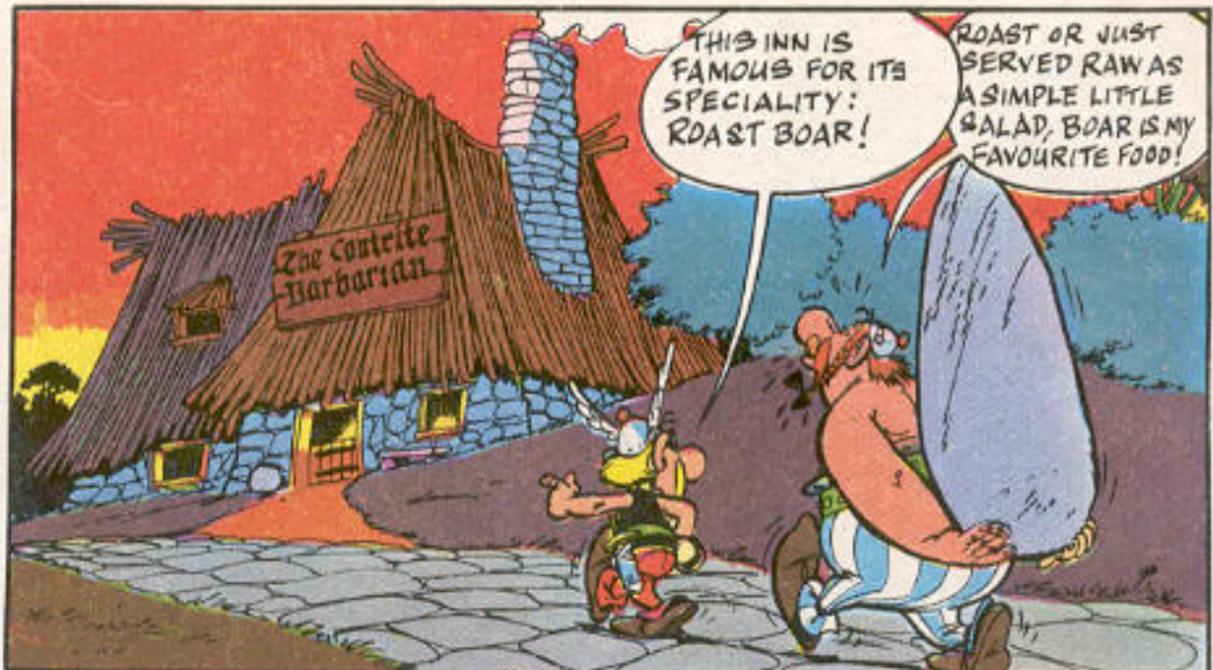
IT'S A PRESENT FOR METALLURGIX. JUST A LITTLE GIFT AS A TOKEN OF FRIENDSHIP!!!





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

DANGER
SLIPPERY FLAGSTONES



THIS INN IS FAMOUS FOR ITS SPECIALITY: ROAST BOAR!

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



Welcome! You want a room?

THAT'S RIGHT. AND TWO BOARS.

TWO FOR ME TOO!



YOU CAN TAKE OUR LUGGAGE TO OUR ROOM.

???



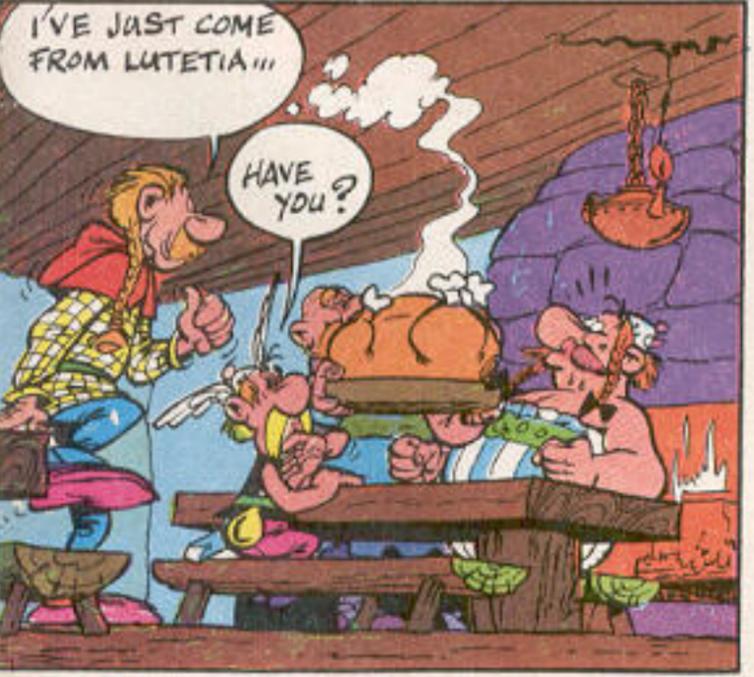
And where are you going like zat?

TO LUTETIA!!!

SCRUNCH! SCRUNCH! SCRUNCH!

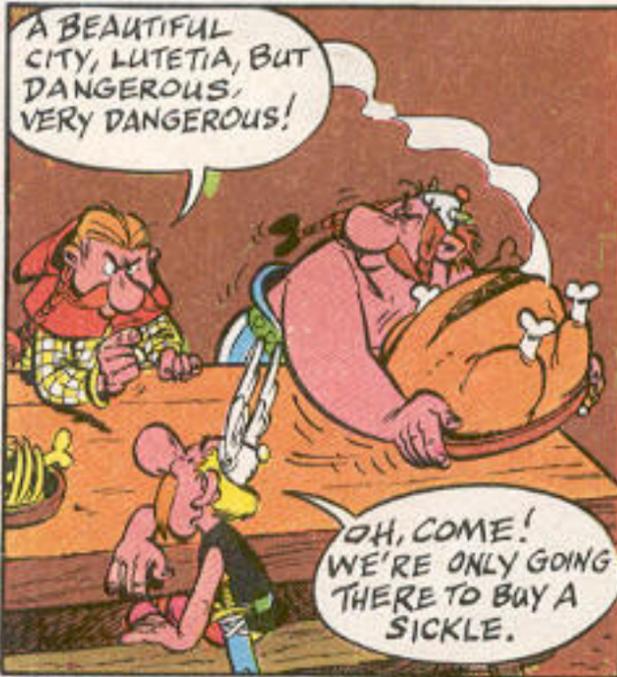


Aaaa! Lutetia!



I'VE JUST COME FROM LUTETIA!!!

HAVE YOU?



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

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



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

DON'T WORRY, WE KNOW WHERE TO GO!



NEXT MORNING!!!

Auf Wiedersehen!

The Count Barbar

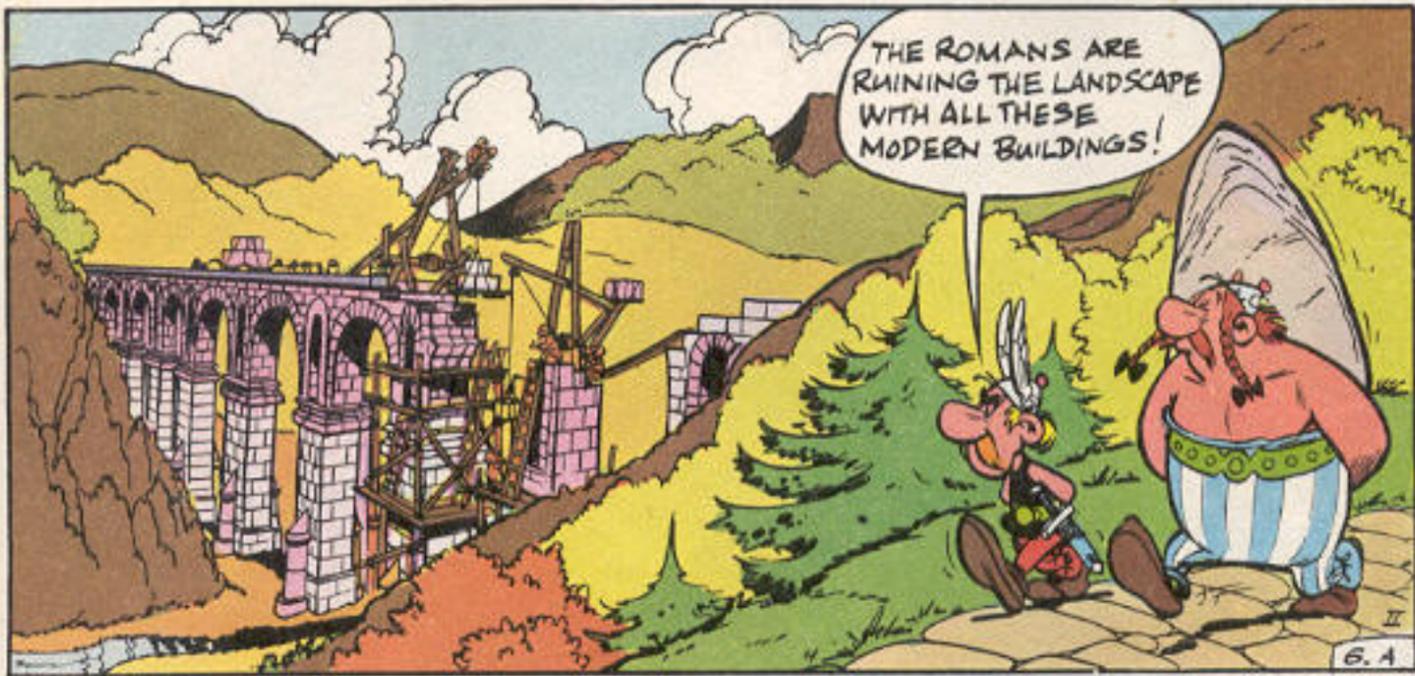


HEY, ASTERIX, WHY DO YOU THINK THAT TRAVELLER TOLD US SICKLES WERE IN SHORT SUPPLY IN LUTETIA?

NO IDEA, OBELIX.



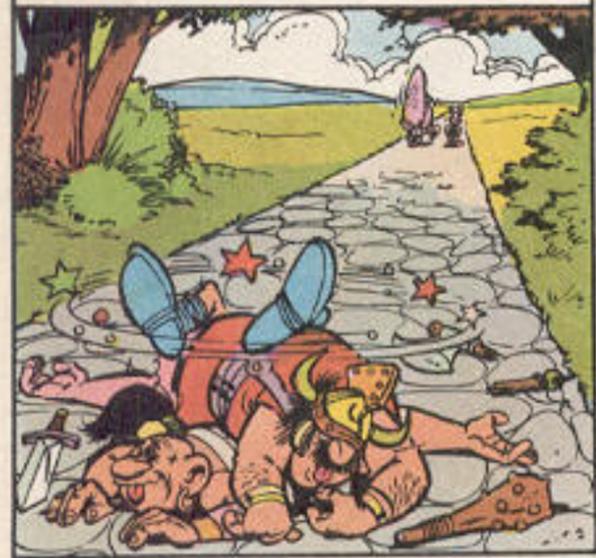
LET'S ENJOY OUR JOURNEY; WE CAN WORRY ABOUT THAT LATER!!!



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

6.4

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



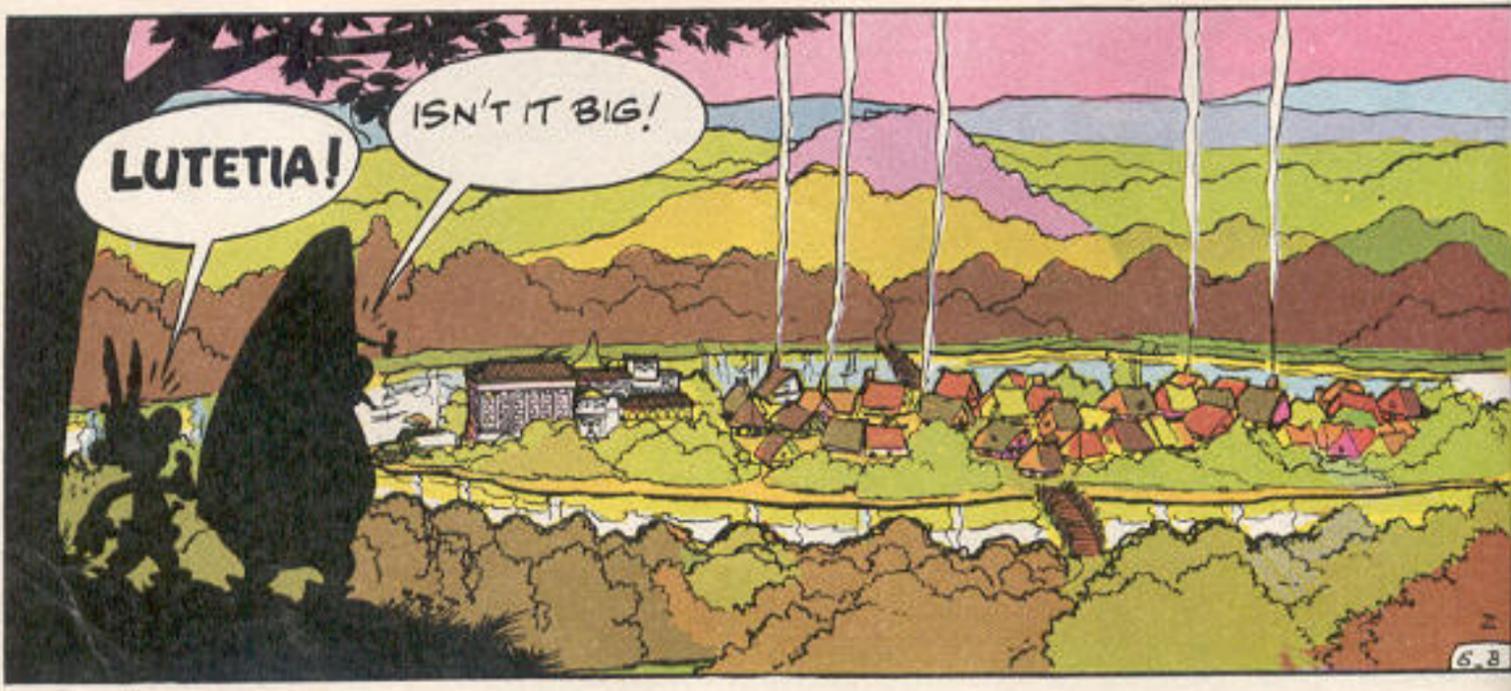
AT SUINDINUM, ASTERIX AND OBELIX ARE UNABLE TO FIND A BED, AS IT HAPPENS TO BE THE DAY OF THE GREAT OX-CART RACE, THE SUINDINUM 24 HOURS!!!



BUT AT LAST, ONE DAY!!!



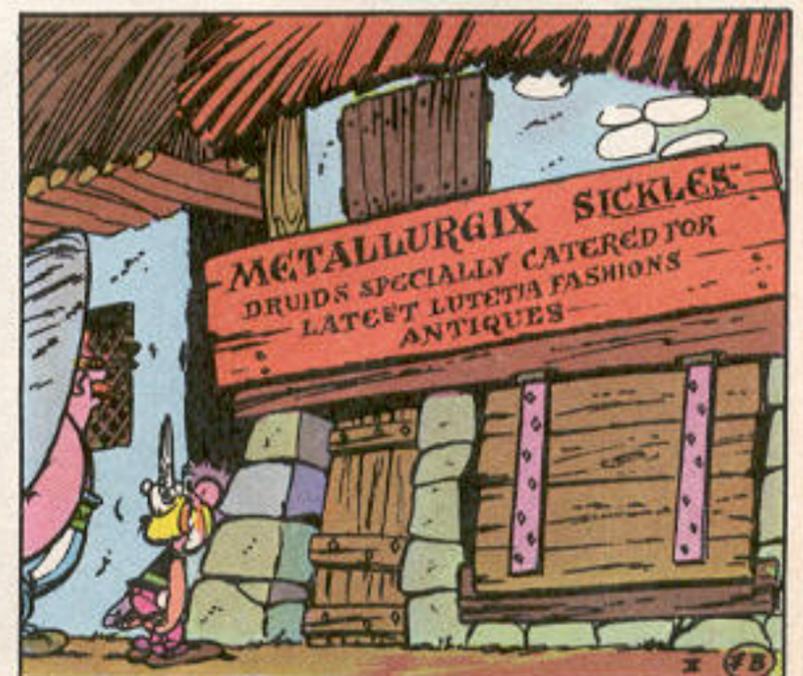
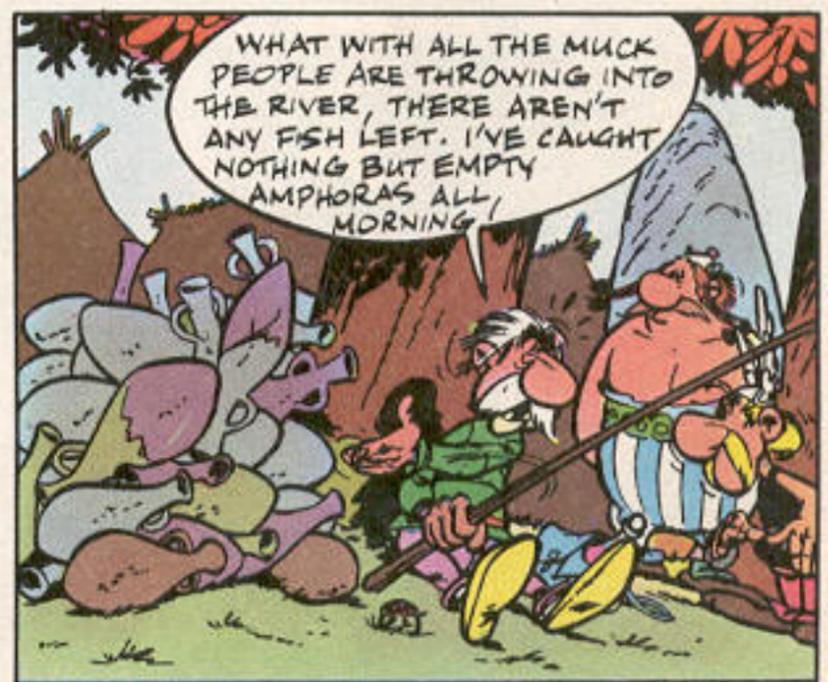
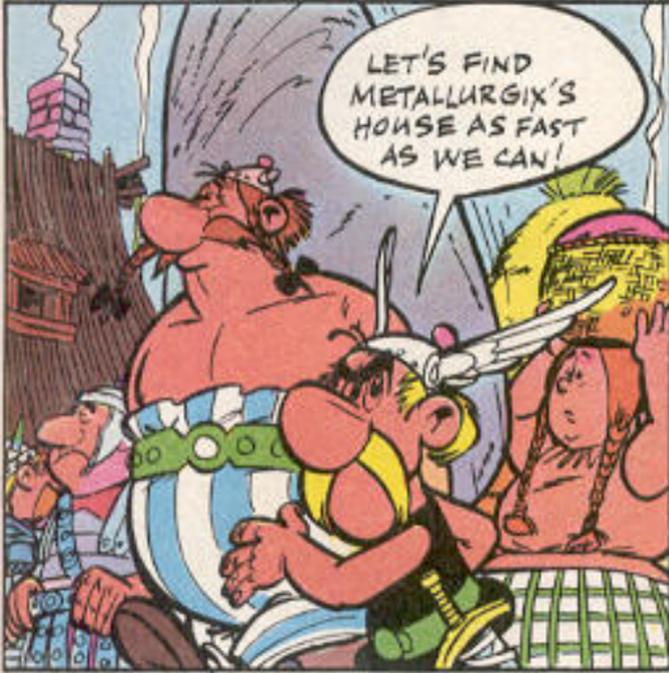
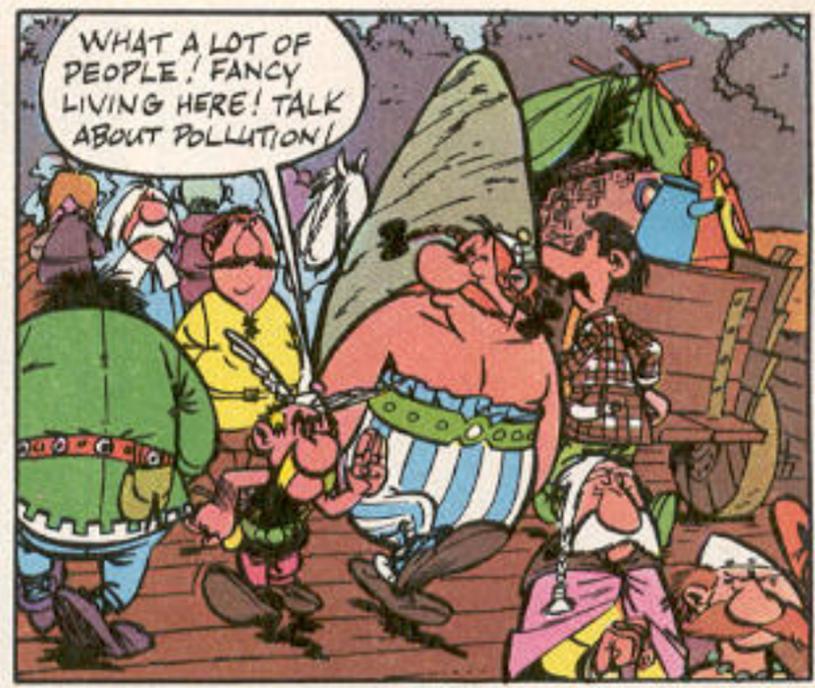
LOOK! OBELIX!

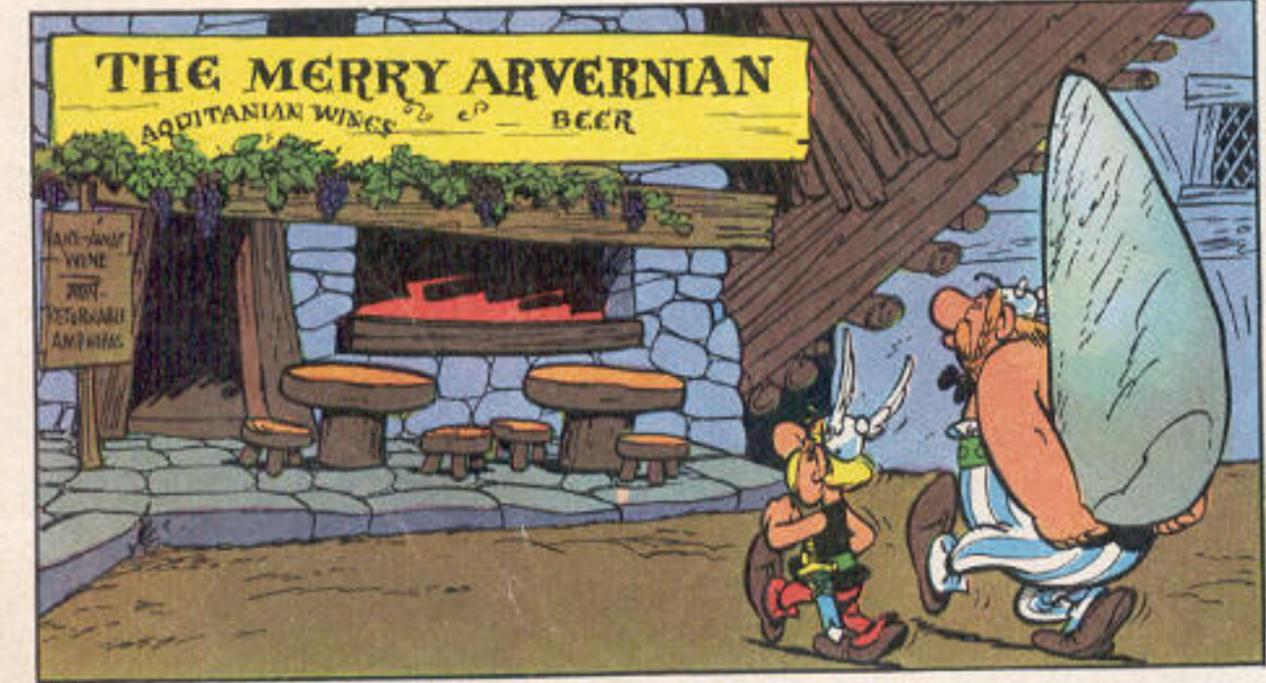
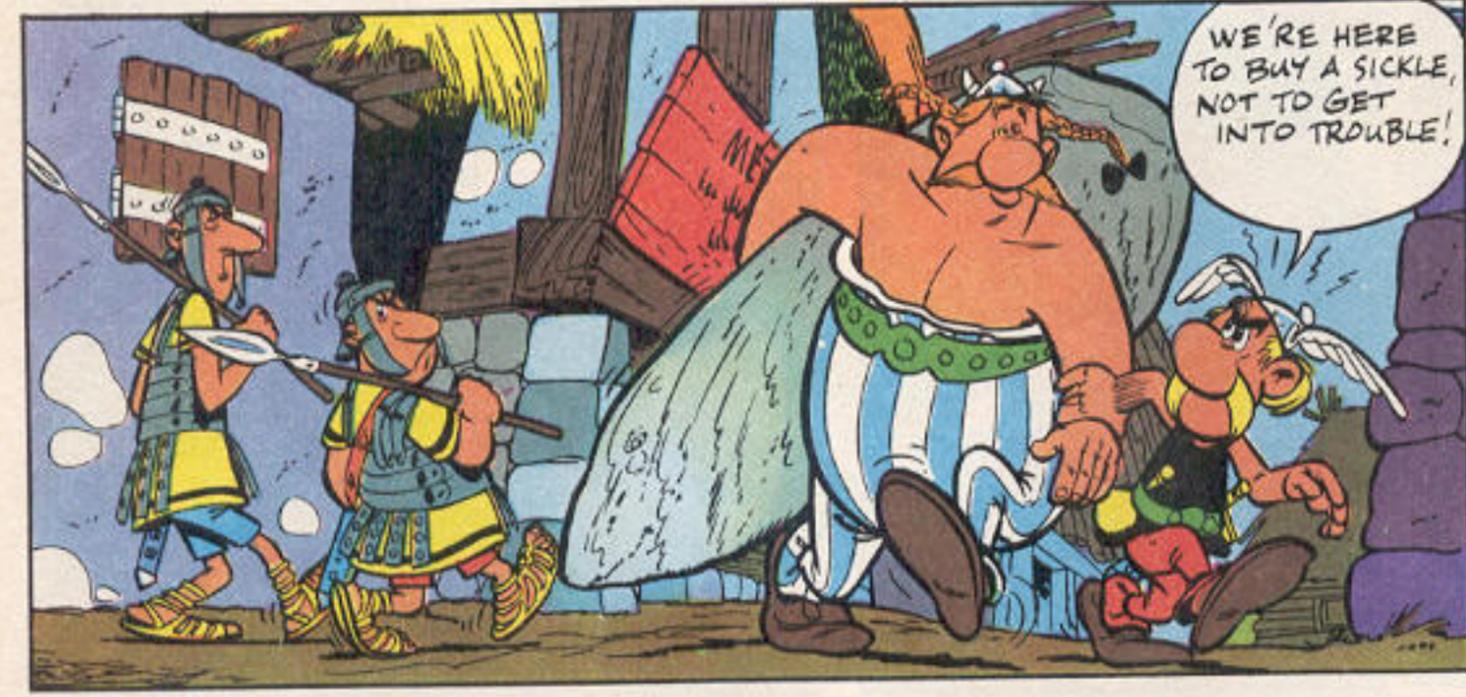
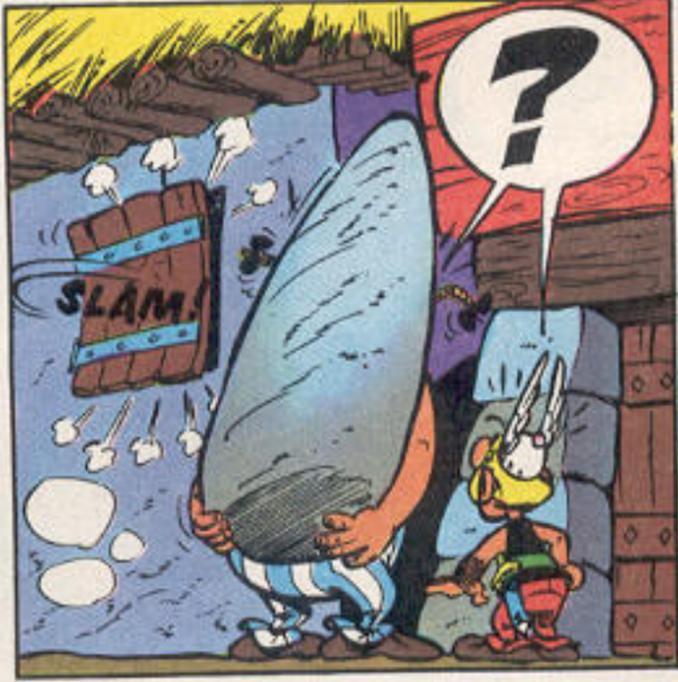
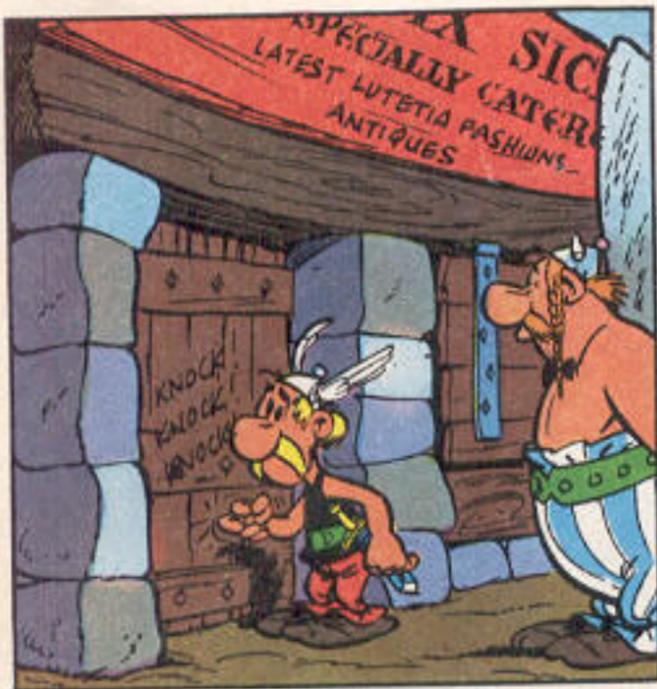


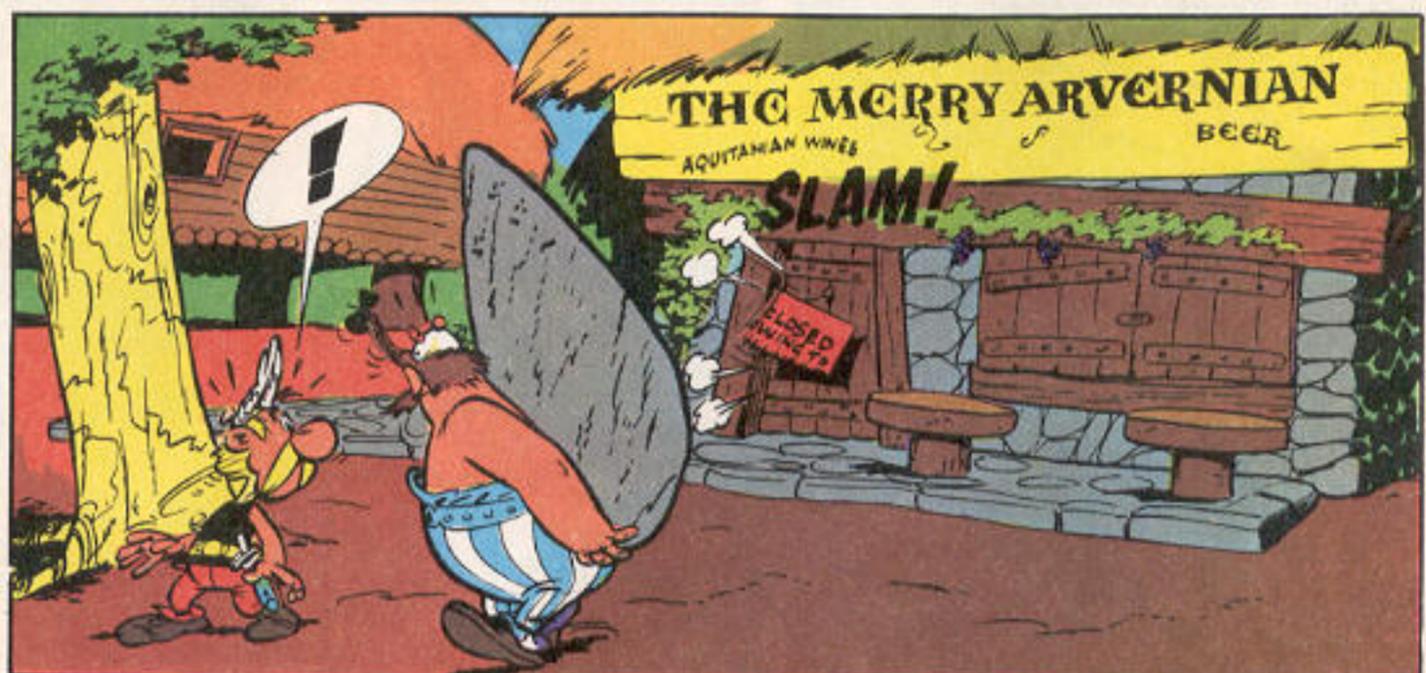
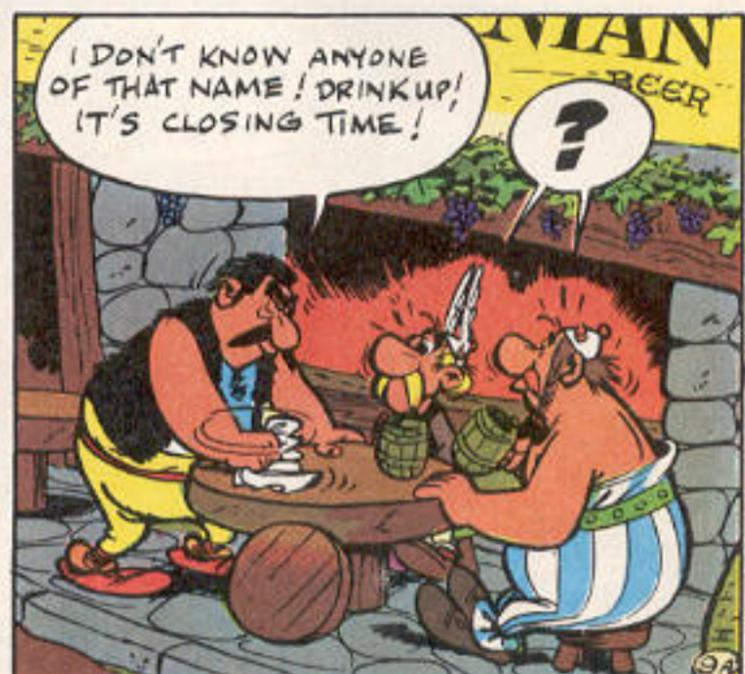
LUTETIA!

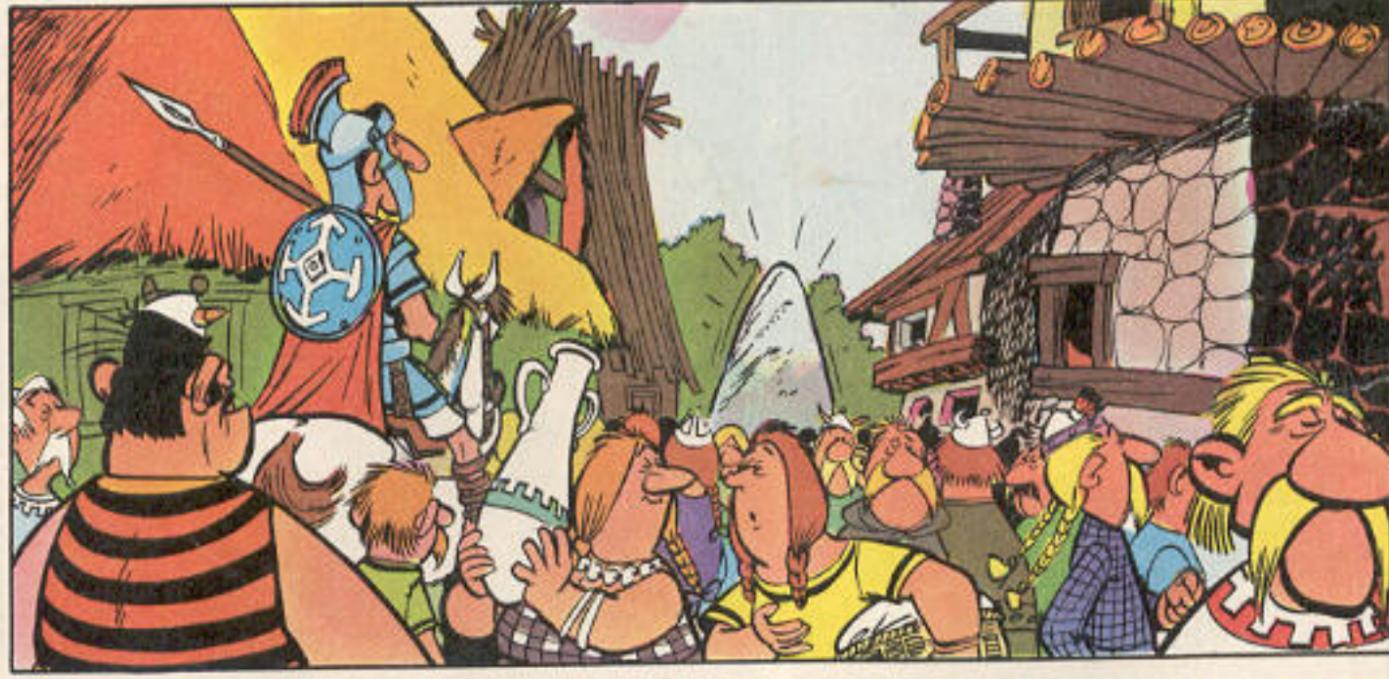
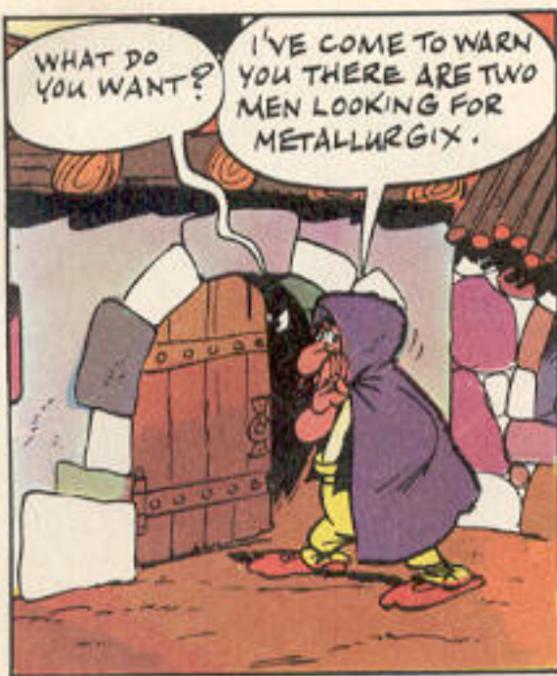
ISN'T IT BIG!

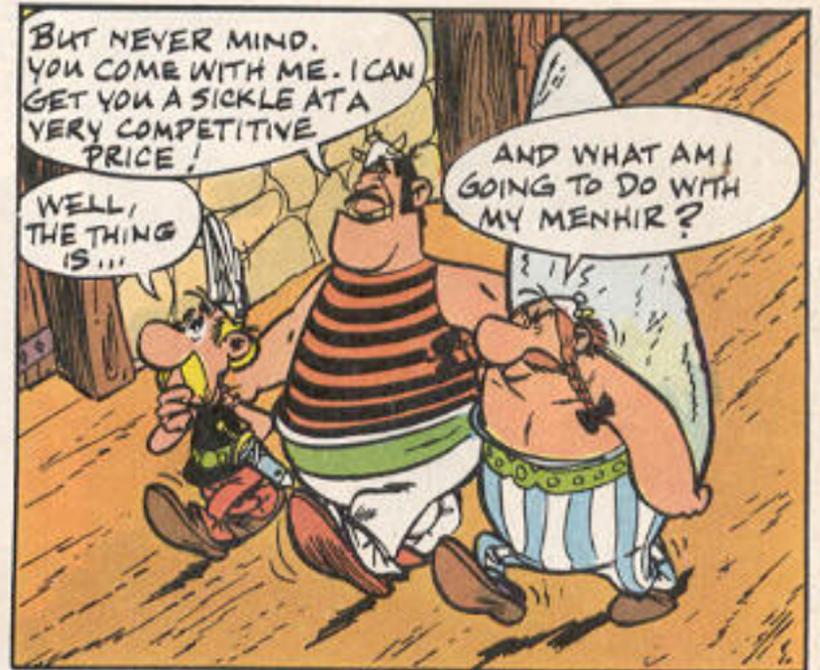
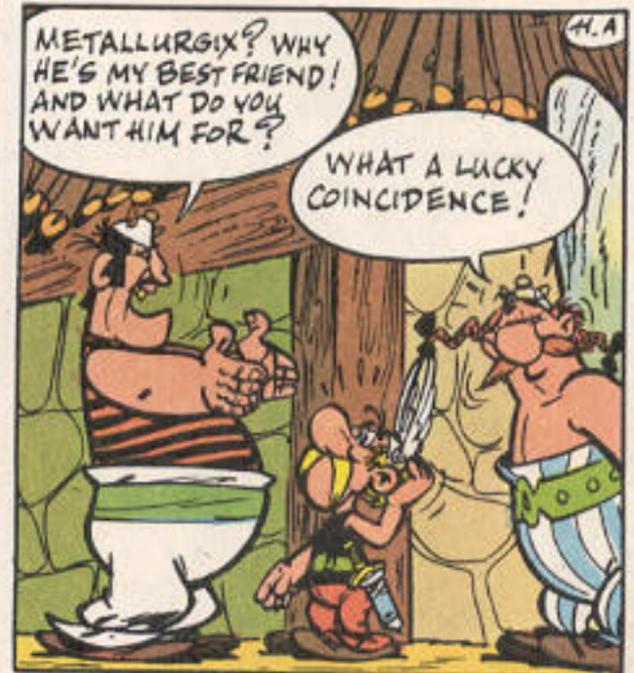
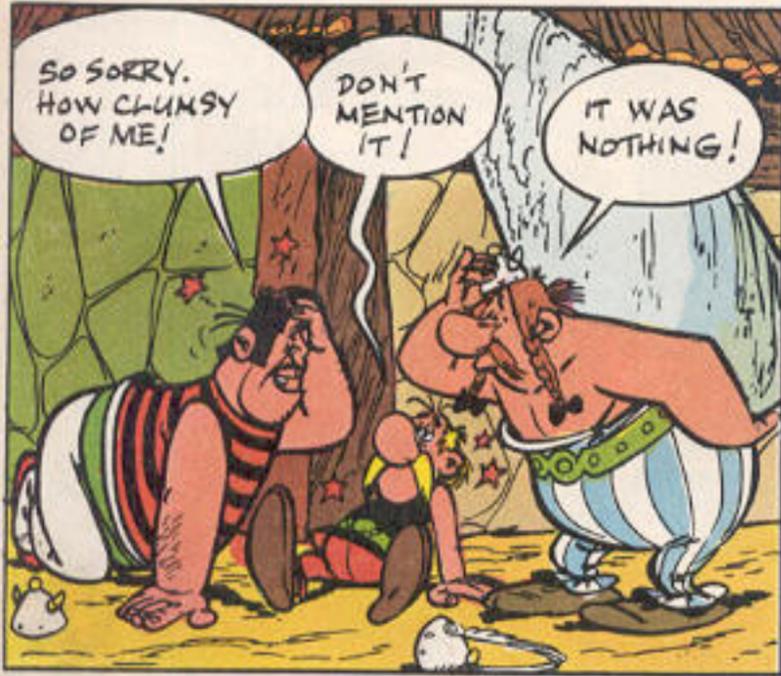
6.8













A TABLE FOR THREE, NOT TOO NEAR THE BARDS!!!

BY ALL MEANS, FOLLOW ME, PLEASE!!!



BEER?

NO, GOATS MILK FOR ME...

A NICE FAT BOAR, PLEASE.



SORRY, BOAR'S OFF. SO IS THE GOAT'S MILK.

NEVER MIND!!!

WHERE ARE THE SICKLES?!



WAIT A MOMENT, I'LL BE BACK DIRECTLY...



PRIVATE

12.4



I AM NAVISHTRIX, THE OWNER OF THIS ESTABLISHMENT. MY FRIEND CLOVOGARLIX HERE TELLS ME YOU'RE LOOKING FOR GOLDEN SICKLES?

AS A MATTER OF FACT...

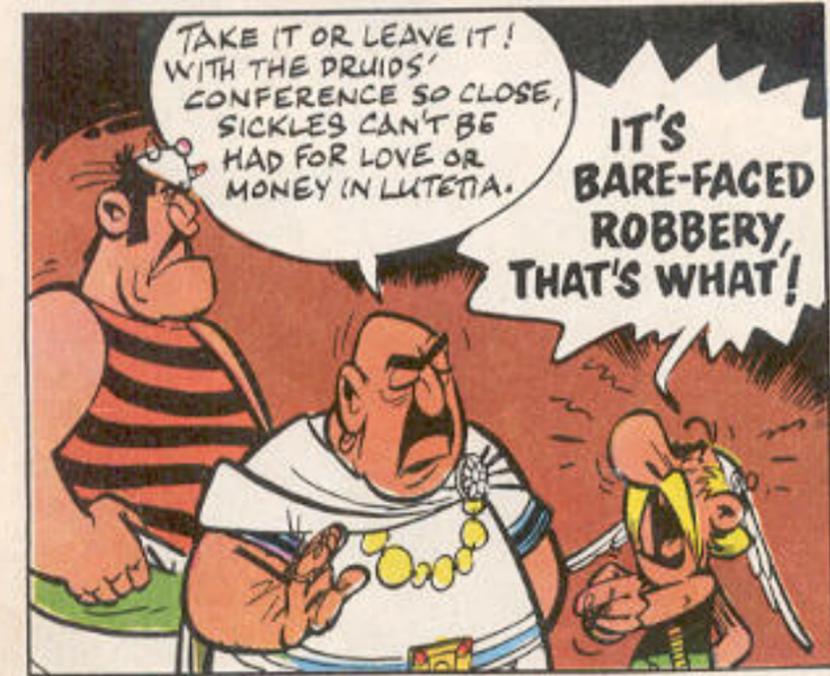


I CAN GET YOU A REALLY TOP QUALITY SICKLE... 3,000 GOLD COINS, RIGHT?

!!

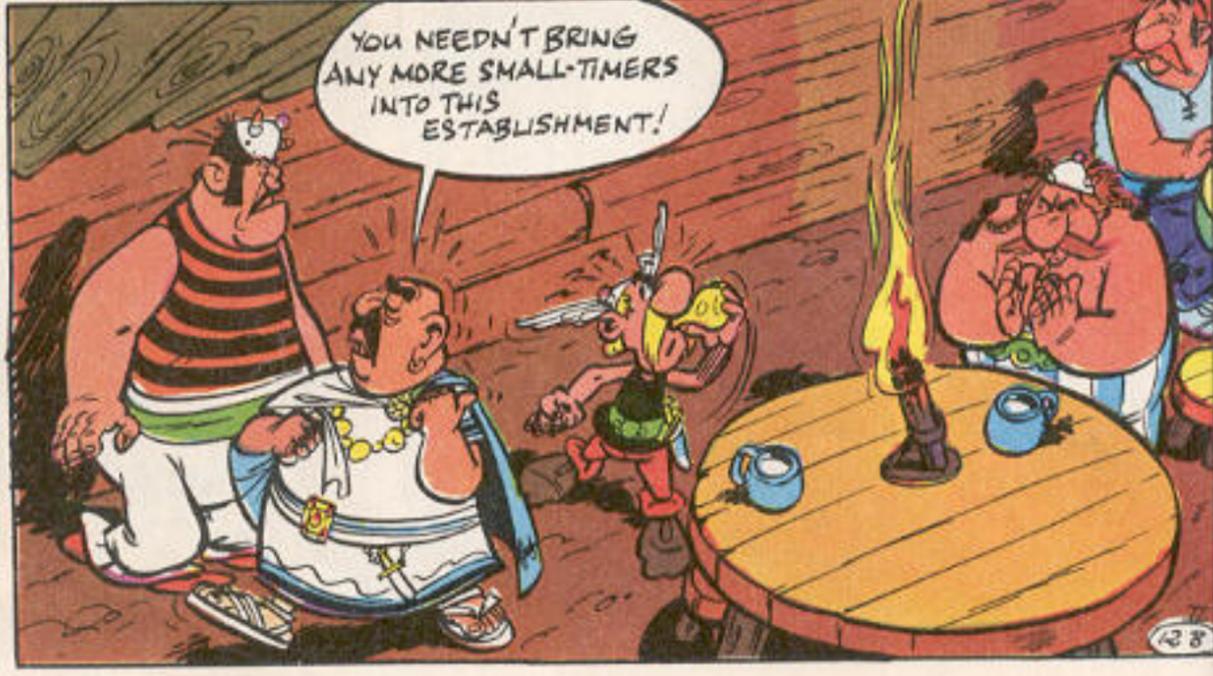


WHAT? I'VE ONLY GOT 100 GOLD COINS, THAT'S A FAIR PRICE FOR A SICKLE!



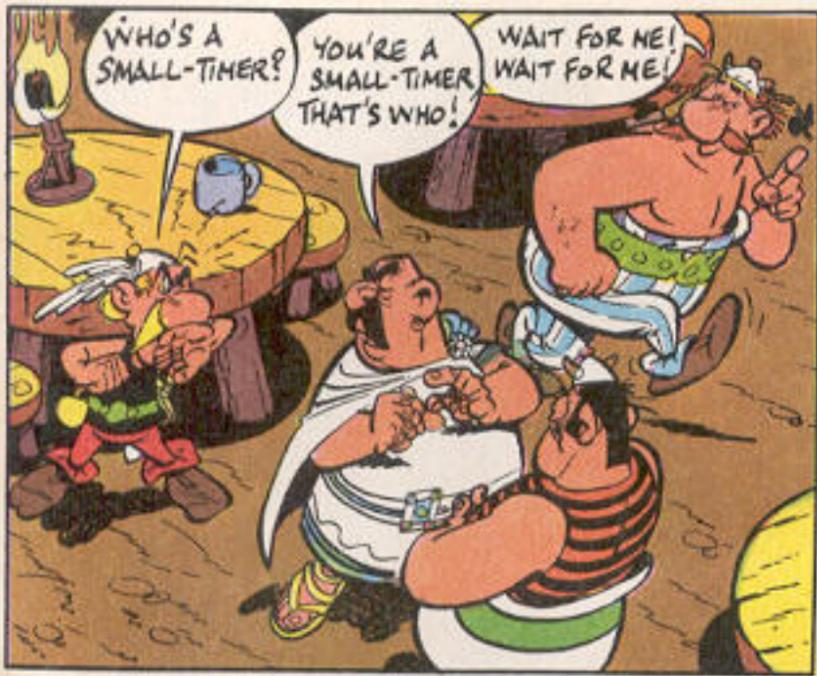
TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT! WITH THE DRUIDS' CONFERENCE SO CLOSE, SICKLES CAN'T BE HAD FOR LOVE OR MONEY IN LUTETIA.

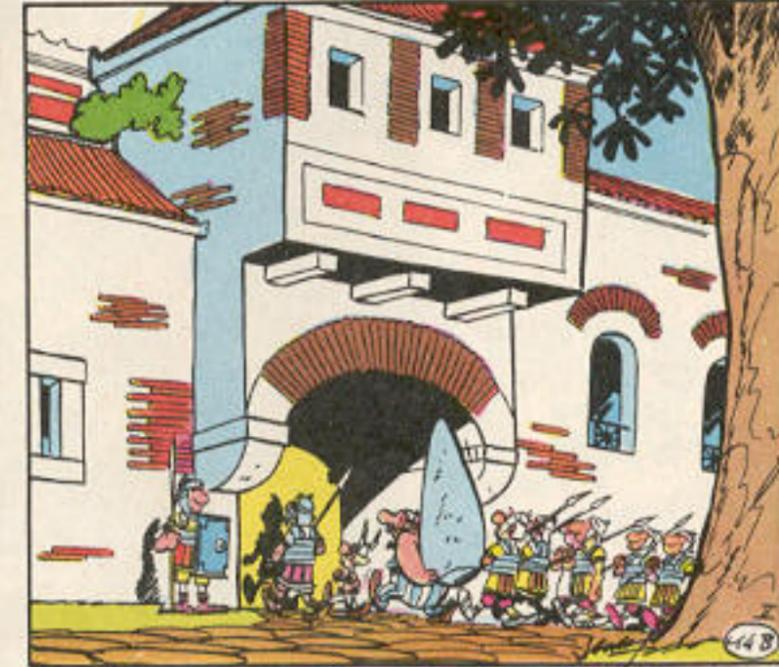
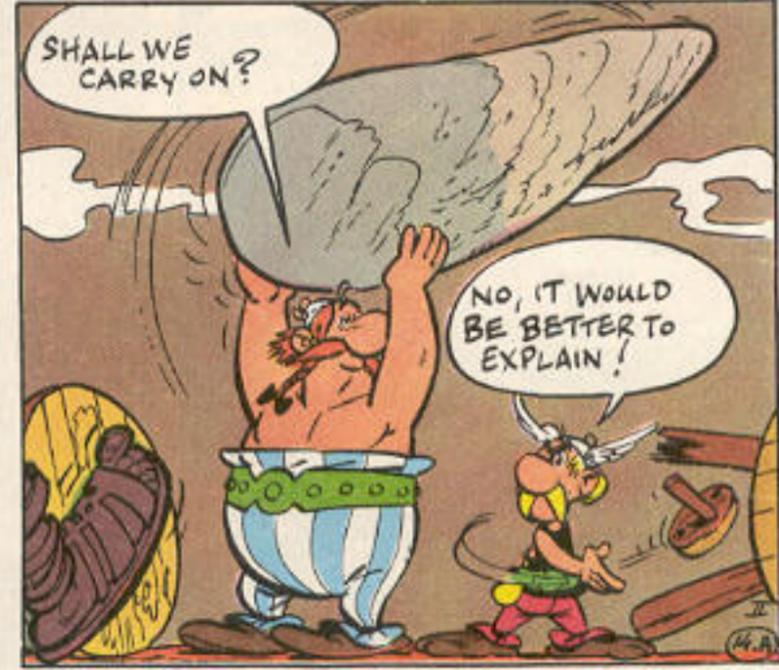
IT'S BARE-FACED ROBBERY, THAT'S WHAT!

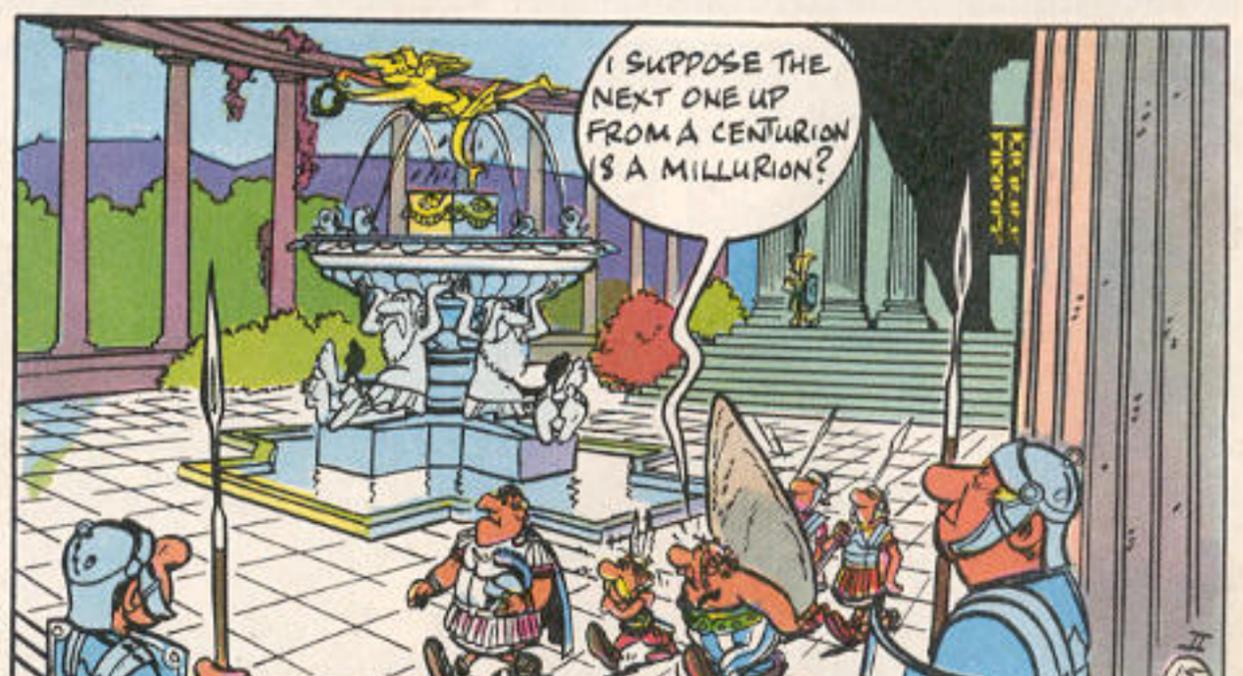
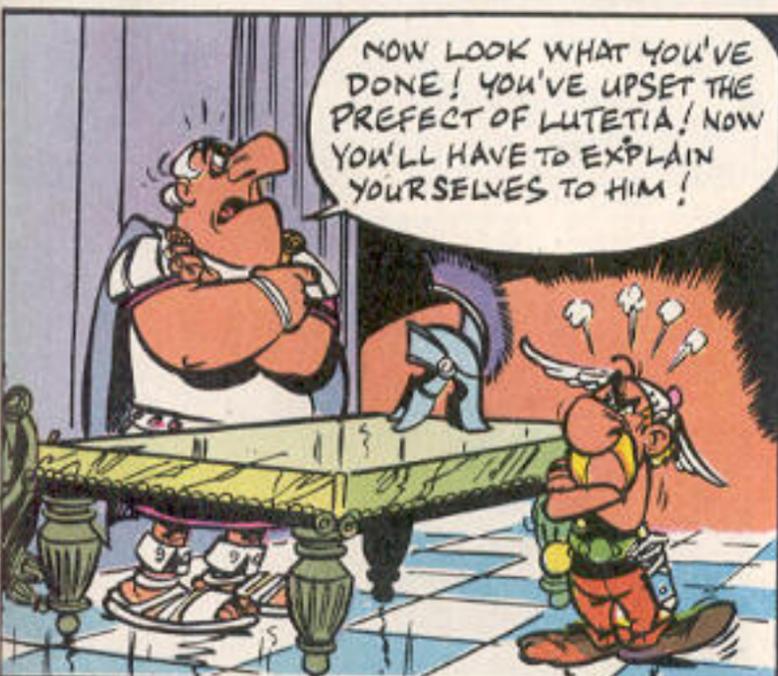
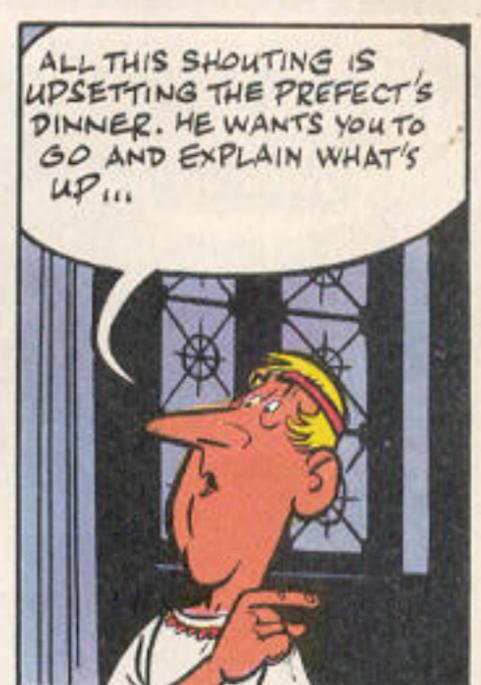
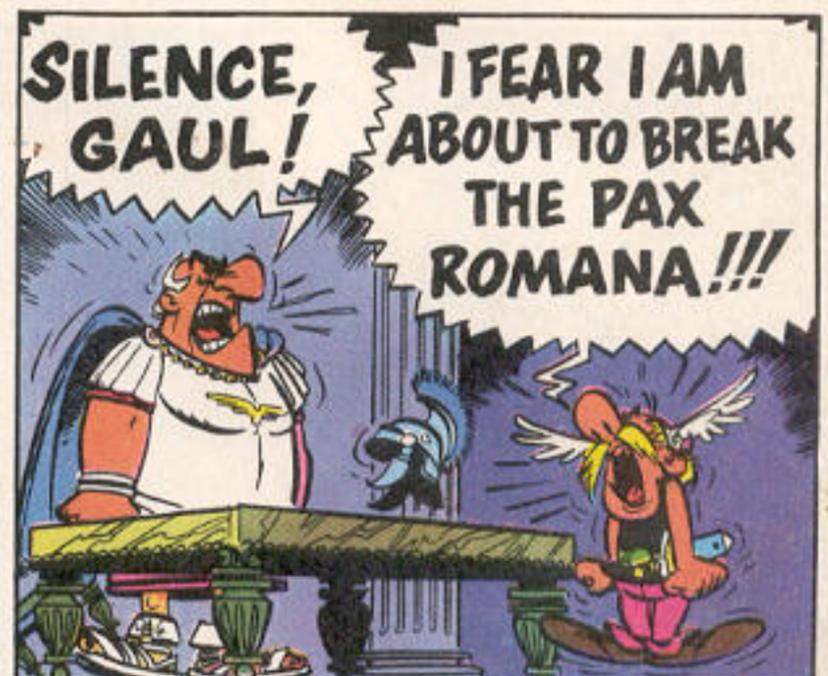
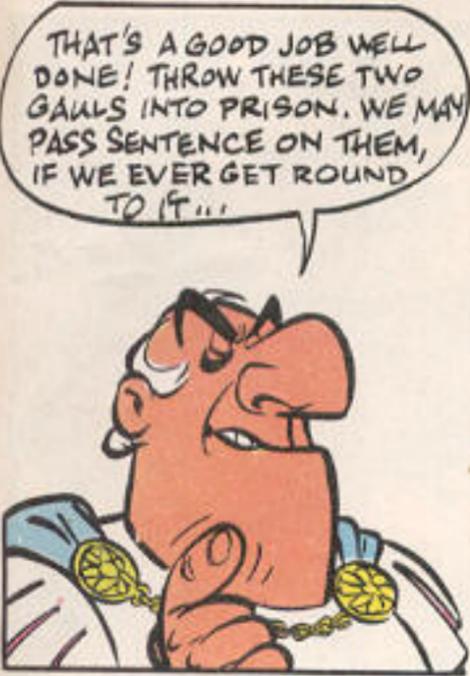
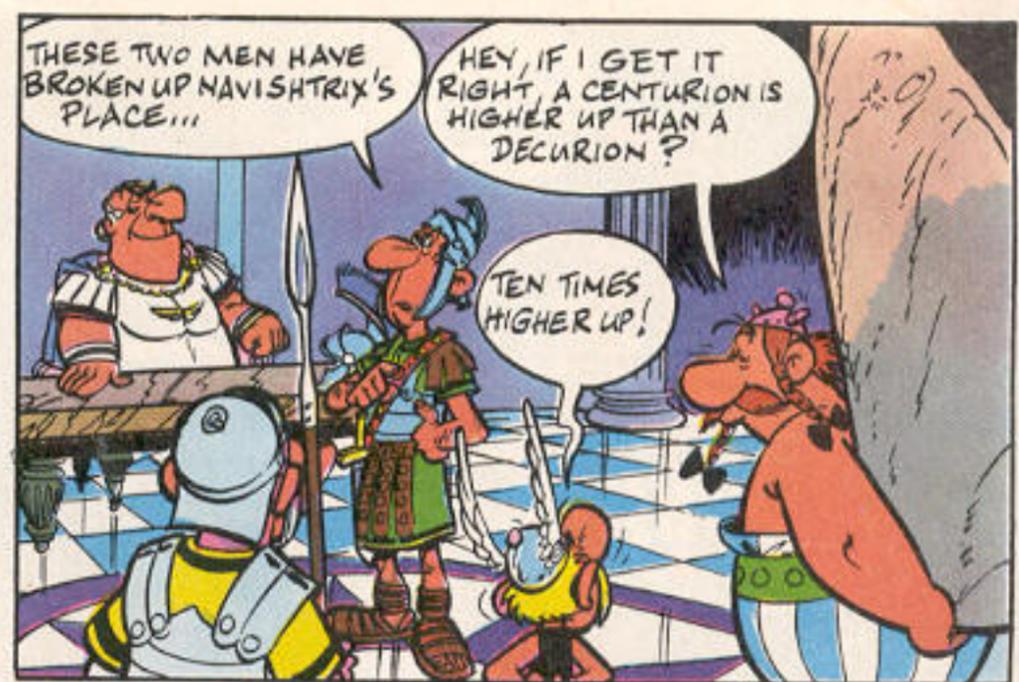
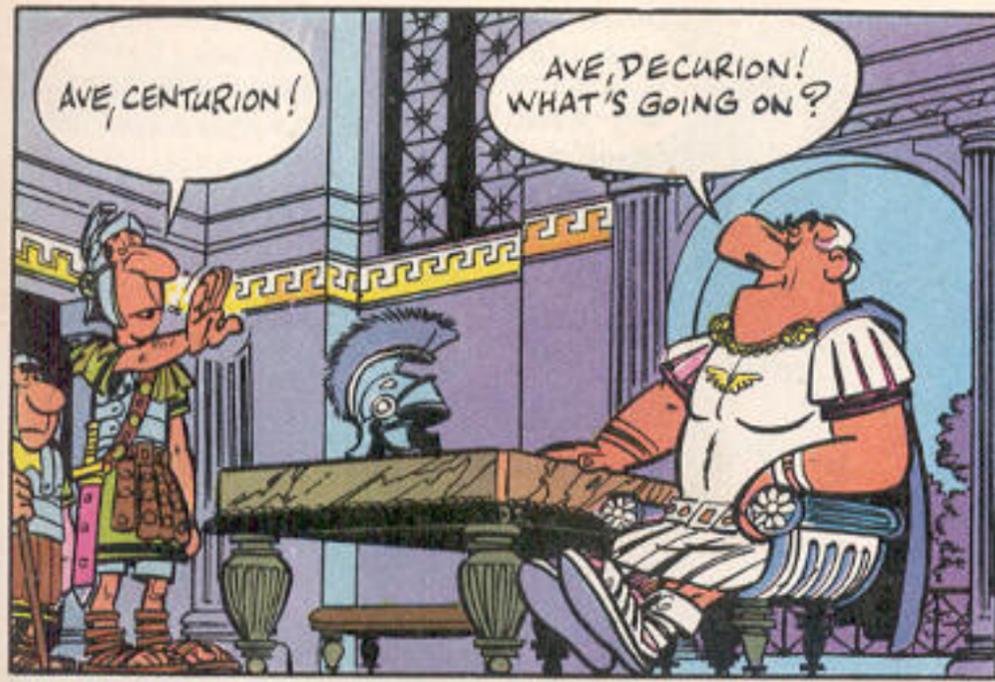


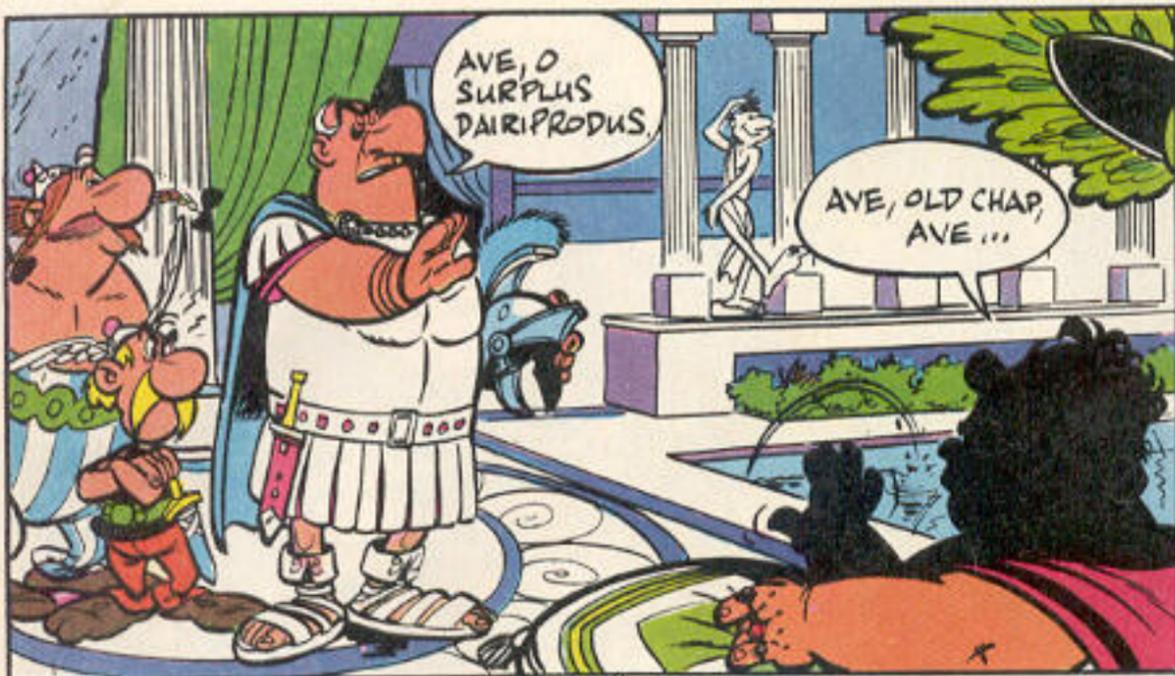
YOU NEEDN'T BRING ANY MORE SMALL-TIMERS INTO THIS ESTABLISHMENT!

13.8









AVE, O SURPLUS DAIRIPRODUS.

AVE, OLD CHAP, AVE...



WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE DISTURBING MY MEAL?

GAULS. SOME GAULS HAVE BEEN HAVING A PUNCH-UP.



I'M TIRED OF GAULS. THEY'RE ALWAYS FIGHTING. IT'S SUCH A BORE...

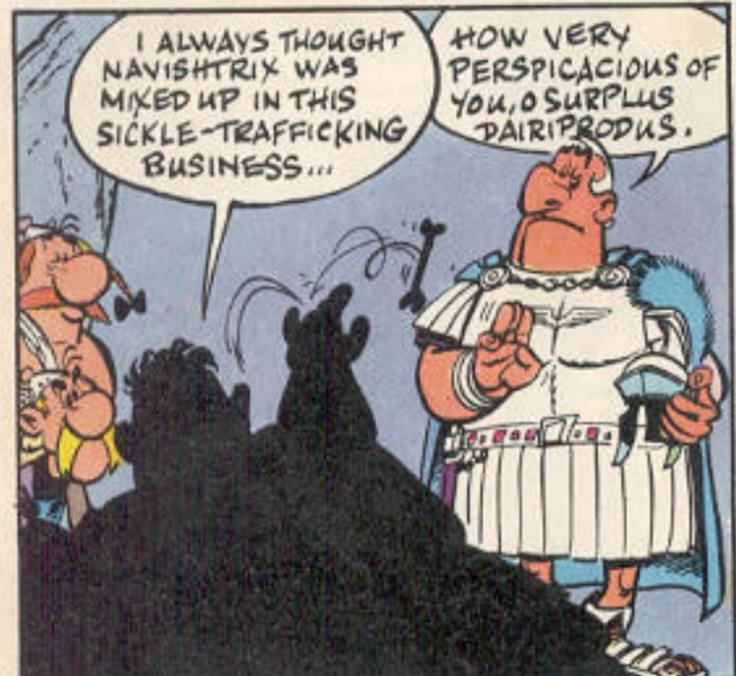


THESE TWO GAULS HAVE BROKEN UP NAVISHTRIX'S PLACE.



HAD A DROP TOO MUCH BEER, EH?

NO. WE WERE JUST TRYING TO BUY A GOLDEN SICKLE FOR OUR DRUID.

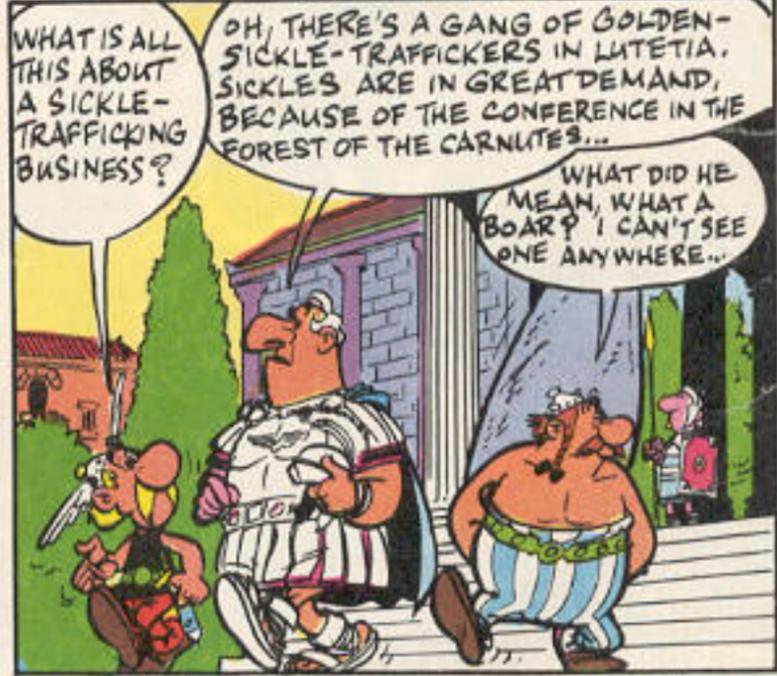


I ALWAYS THOUGHT NAVISHTRIX WAS MIXED UP IN THIS SICKLE-TRAFFICKING BUSINESS...

HOW VERY PERSPICACIOUS OF YOU, O SURPLUS DAIRIPRODUS.



ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT, RELEASE THESE GAULS, I FIND THEM TIRING... WHAT A BORE, WHAT A BORE...



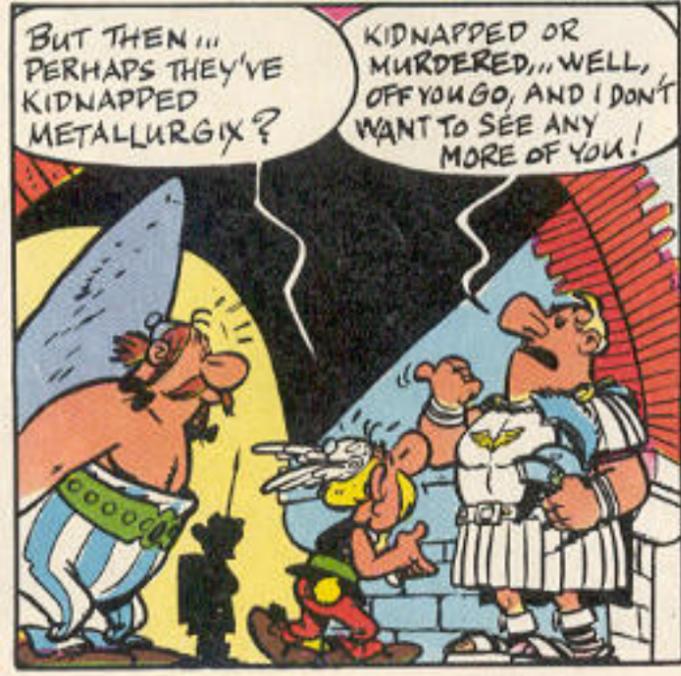
WHAT IS ALL THIS ABOUT A SICKLE-TRAFFICKING BUSINESS?

OH, THERE'S A GANG OF GOLDEN-SICKLE-TRAFFICKERS IN LUTETIA. SICKLES ARE IN GREAT DEMAND, BECAUSE OF THE CONFERENCE IN THE FOREST OF THE CARNUTES...

WHAT DID HE MEAN, WHAT A BOAR? I CAN'T SEE ONE ANYWHERE...

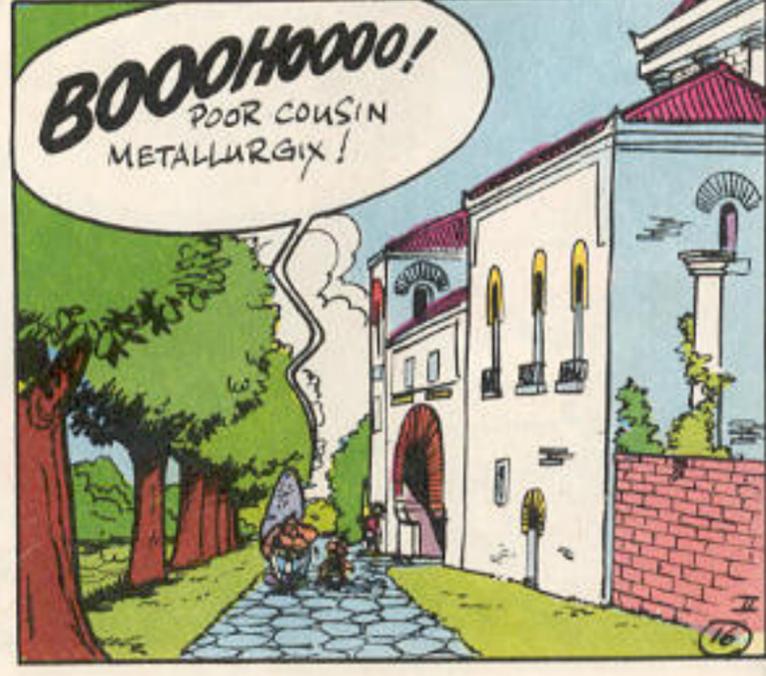


SO NOW THEY HAVE THE MONOPOLY, ESPECIALLY AS METALLURGIX DISAPPEARED WITHOUT LEAVING ANY FORWARDING ADDRESS...

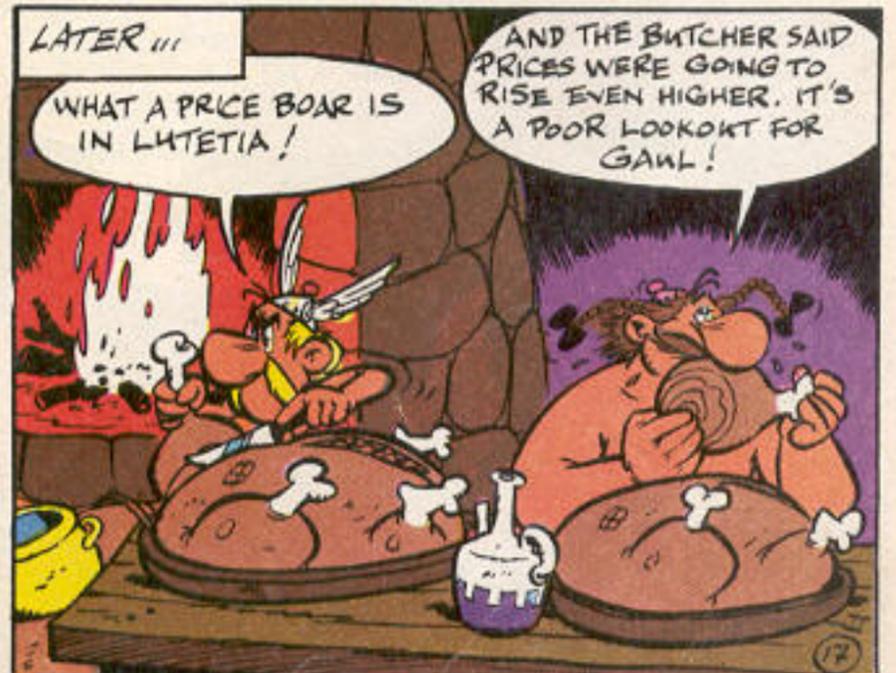
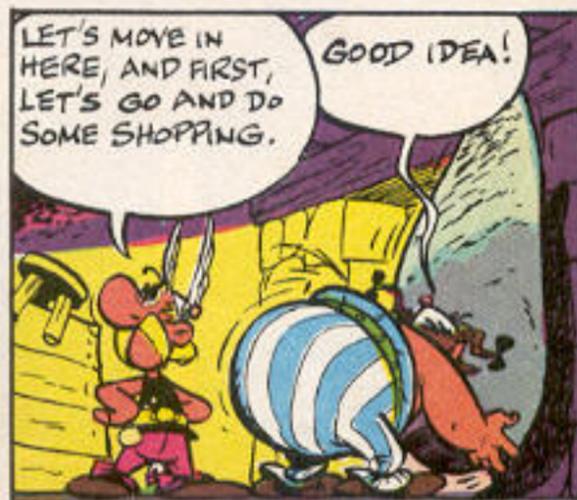
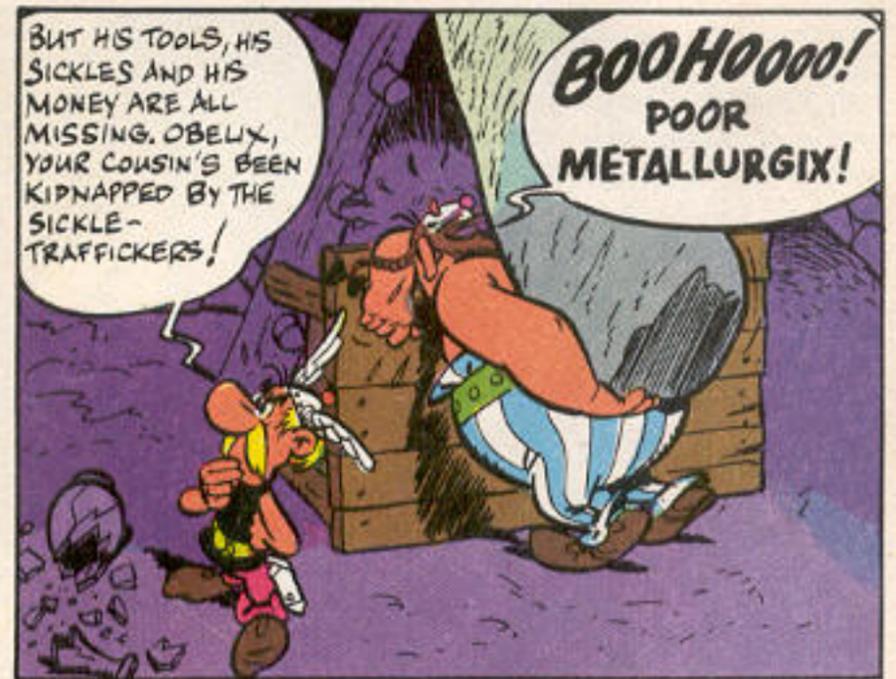
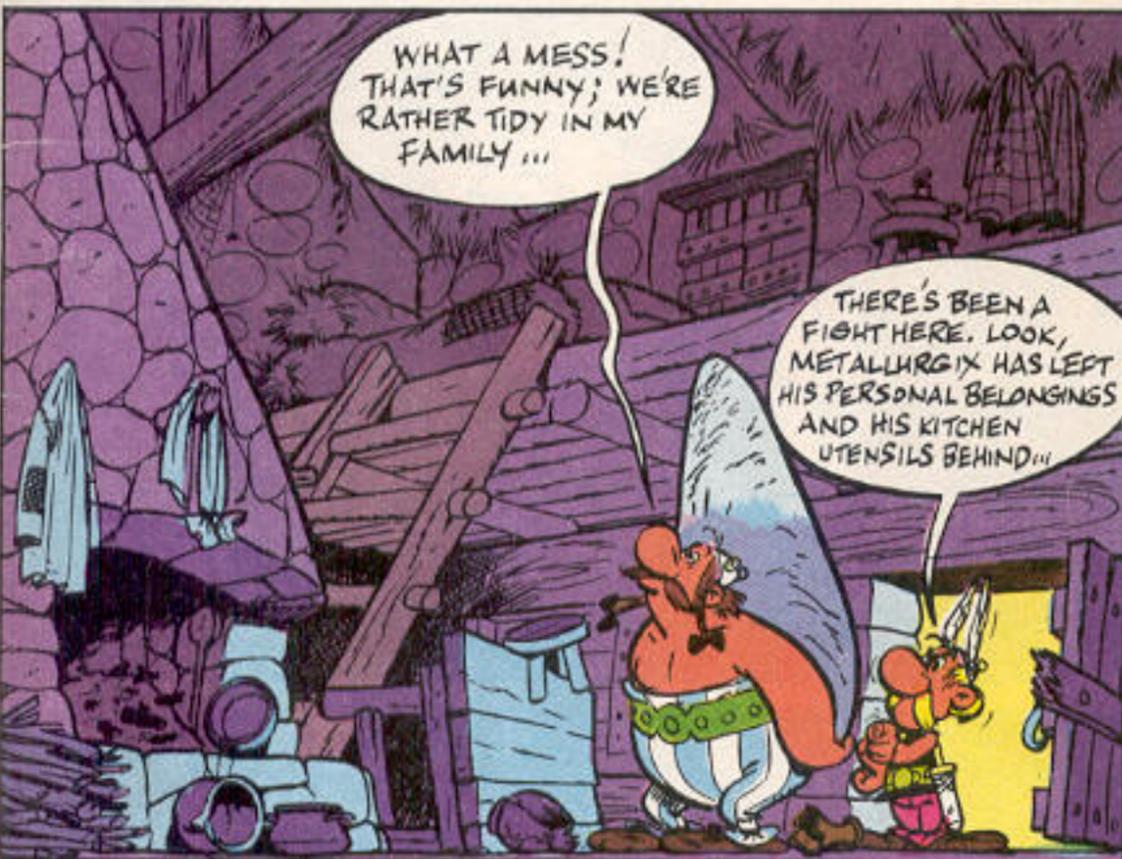
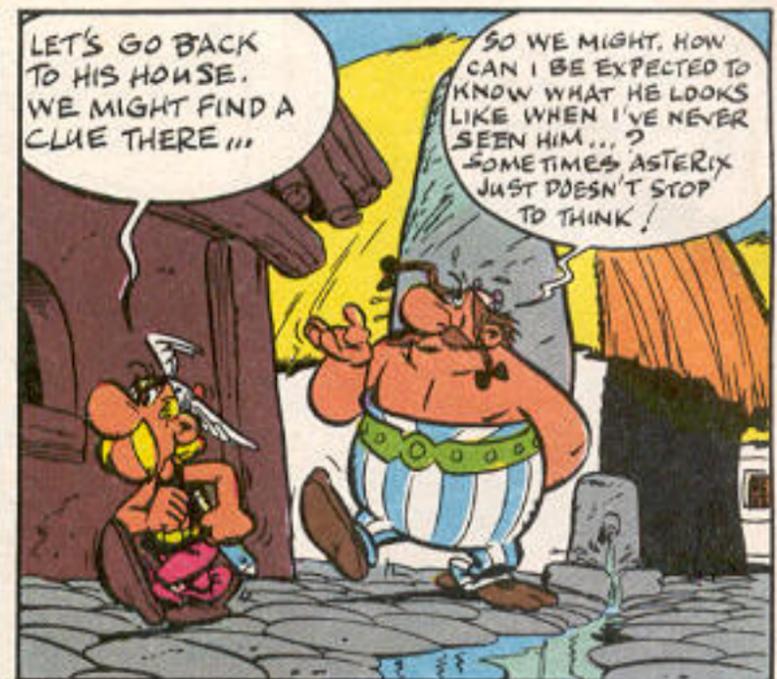


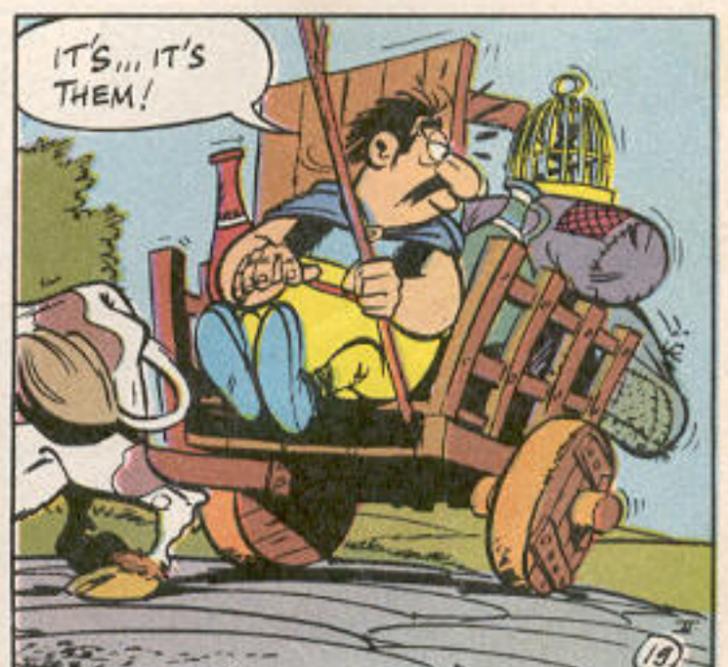
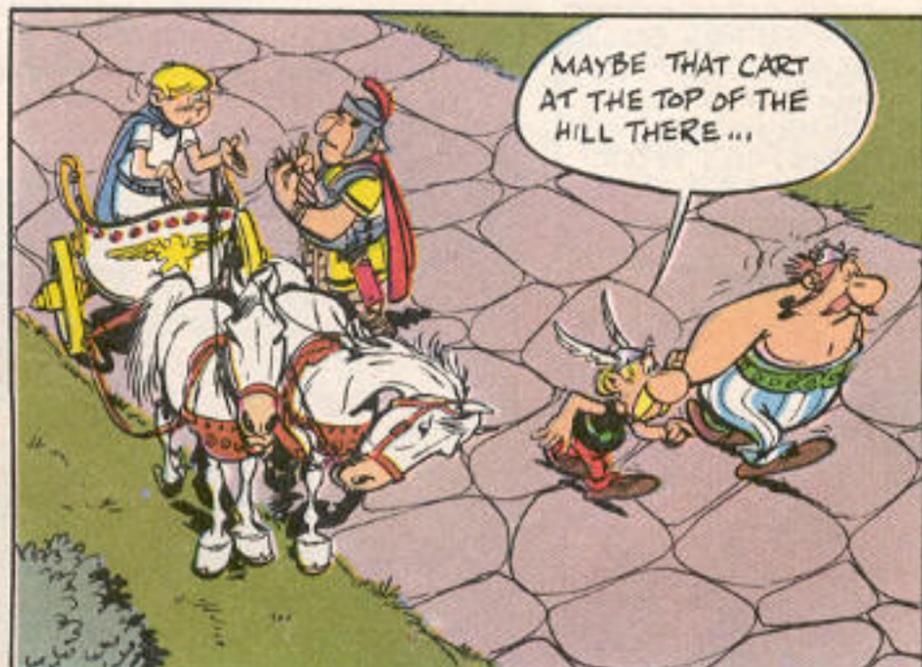
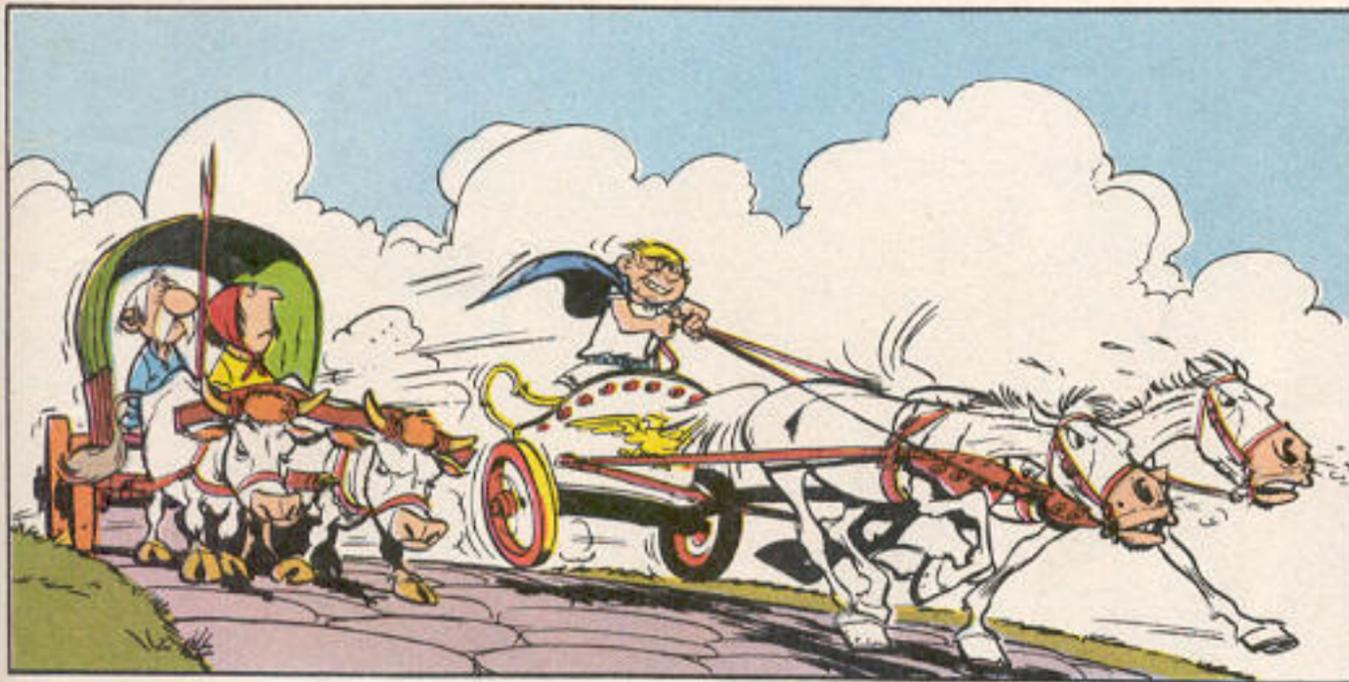
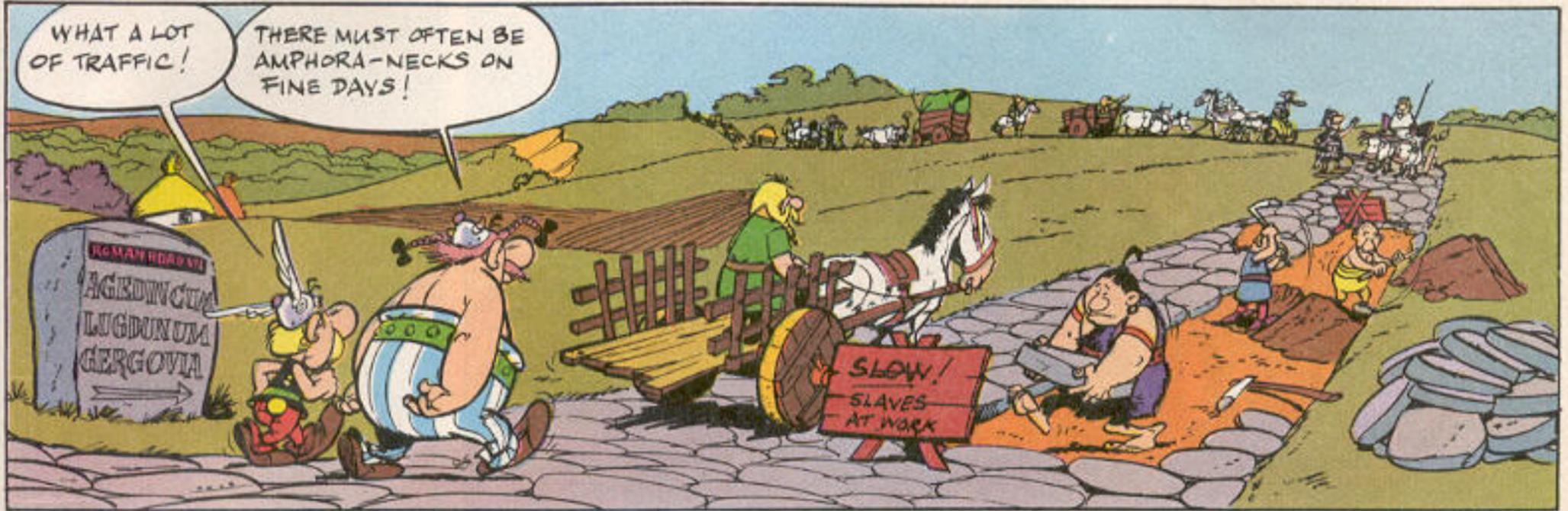
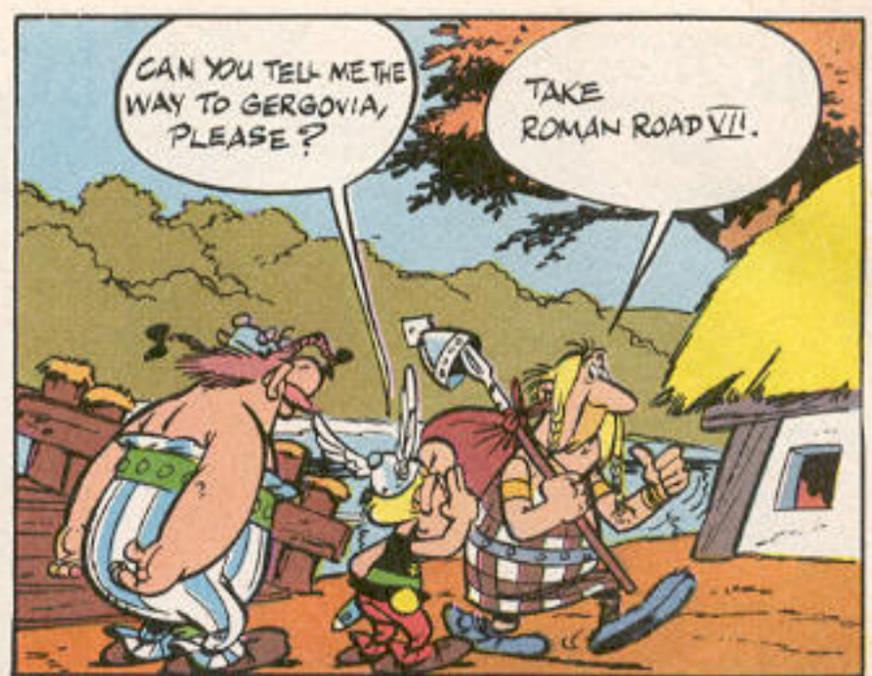
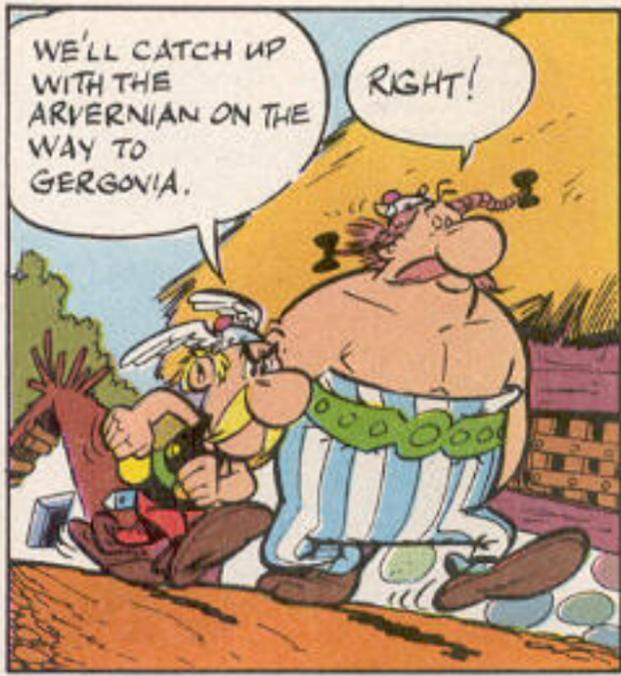
BUT THEN... PERHAPS THEY'VE KIDNAPPED METALLURGIX?

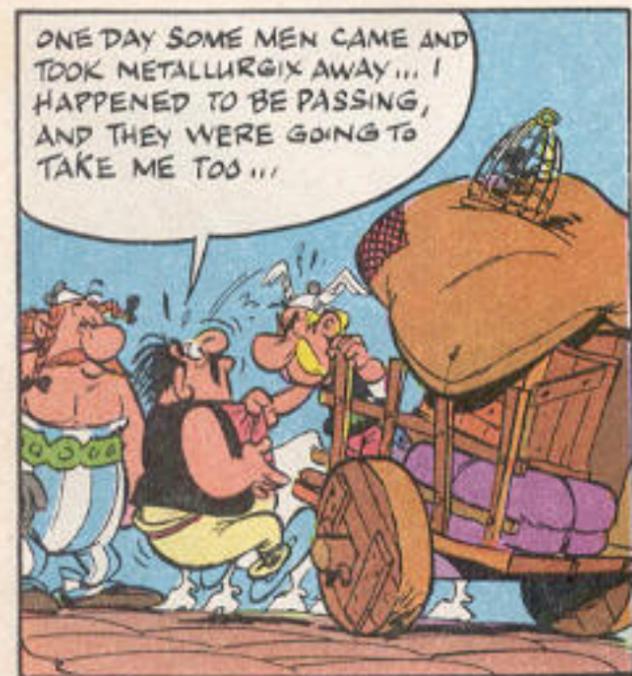
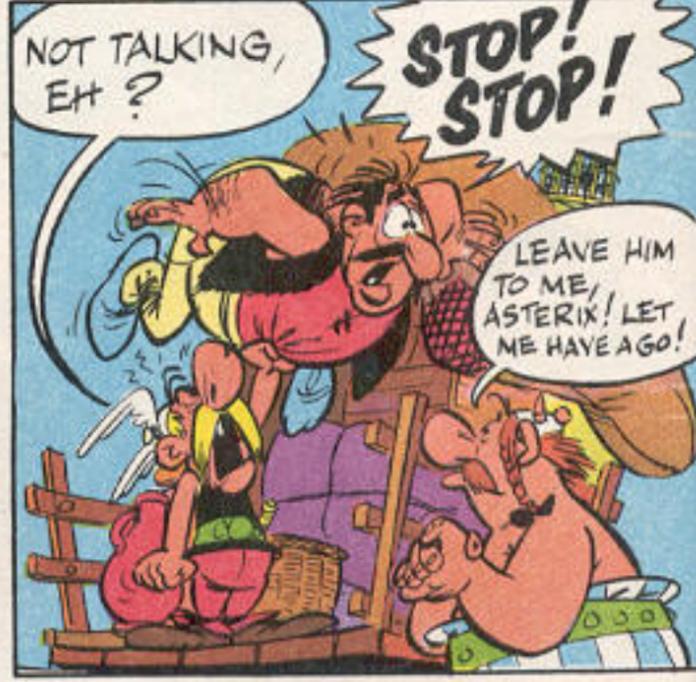
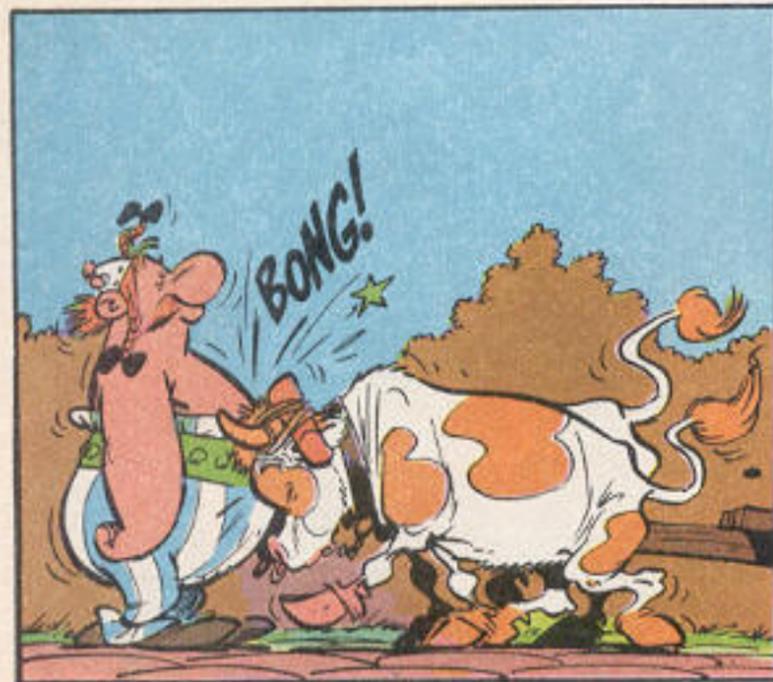
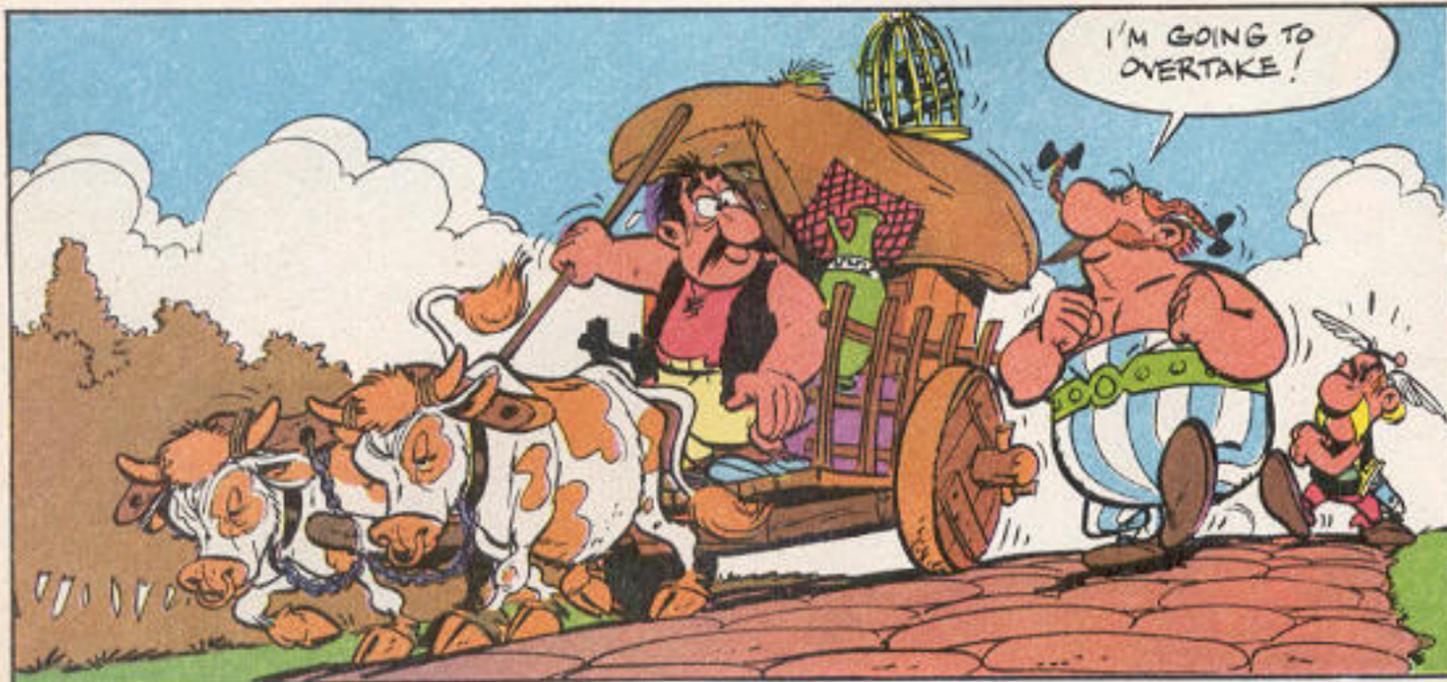
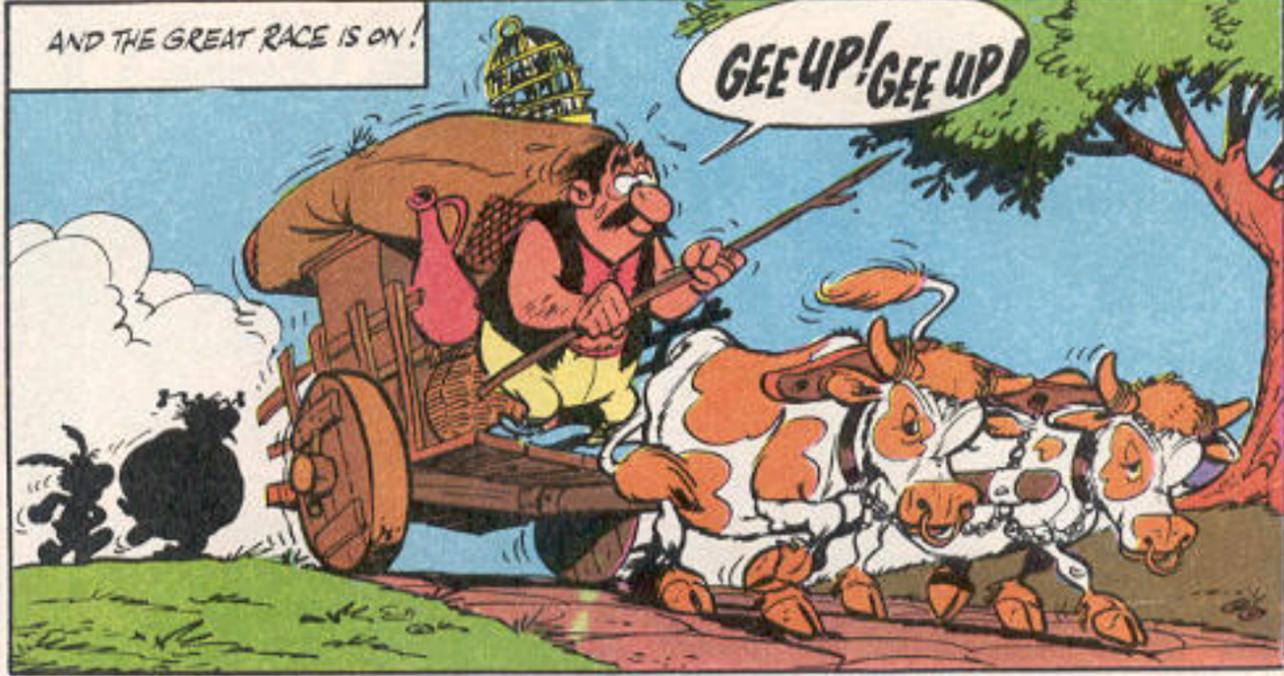
KIDNAPPED OR MURDERED... WELL, OFF YOU GO, AND I DON'T WANT TO SEE ANY MORE OF YOU!

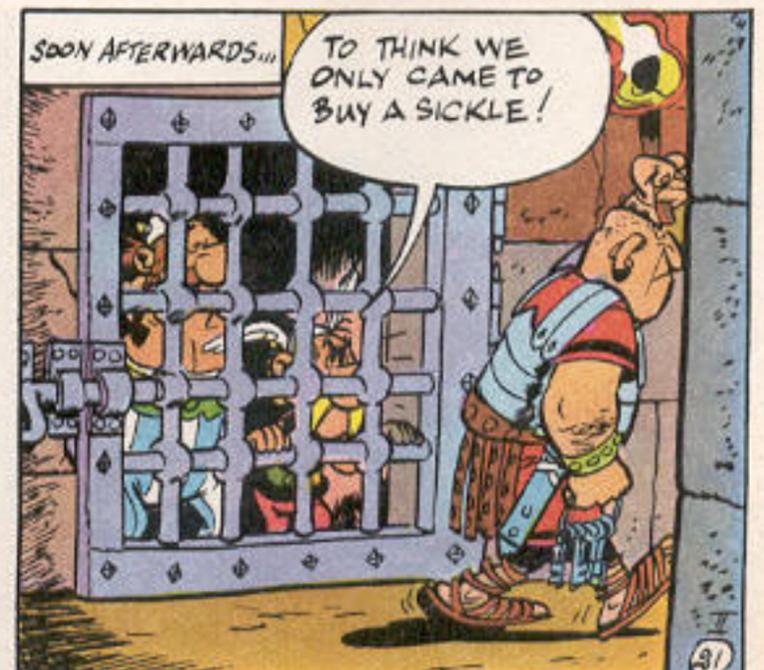
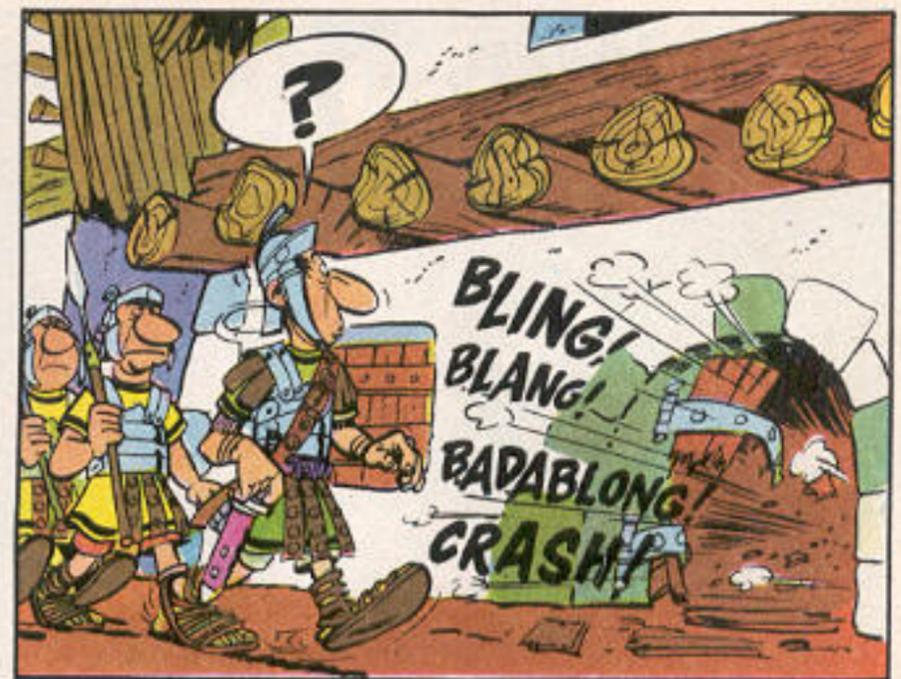
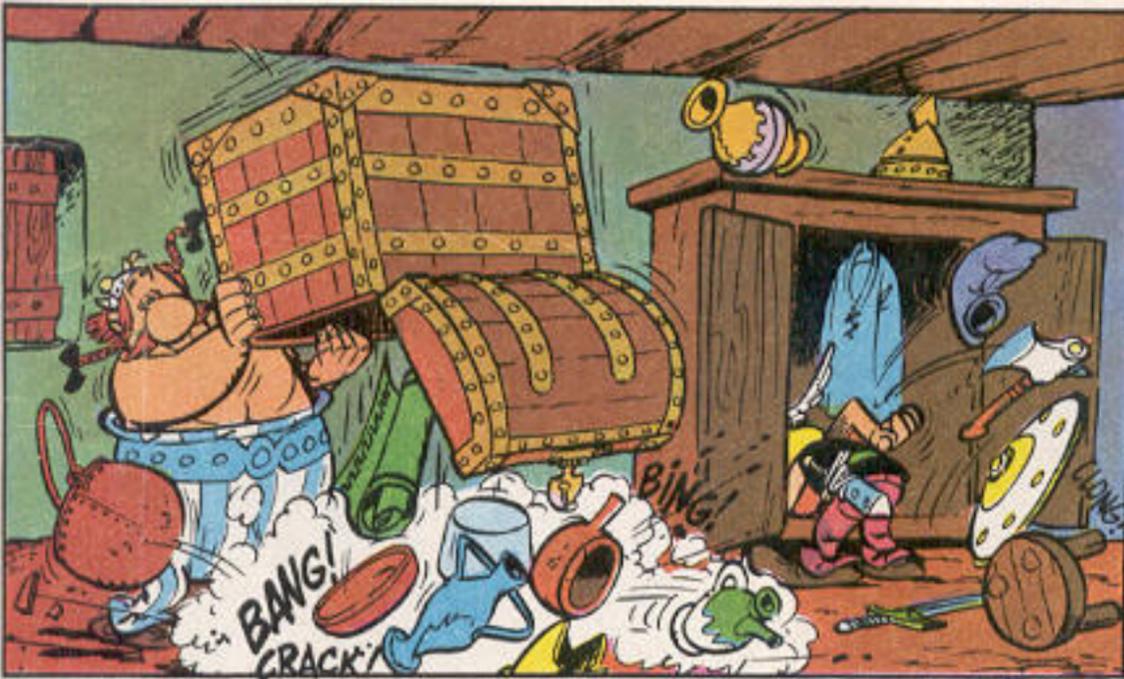
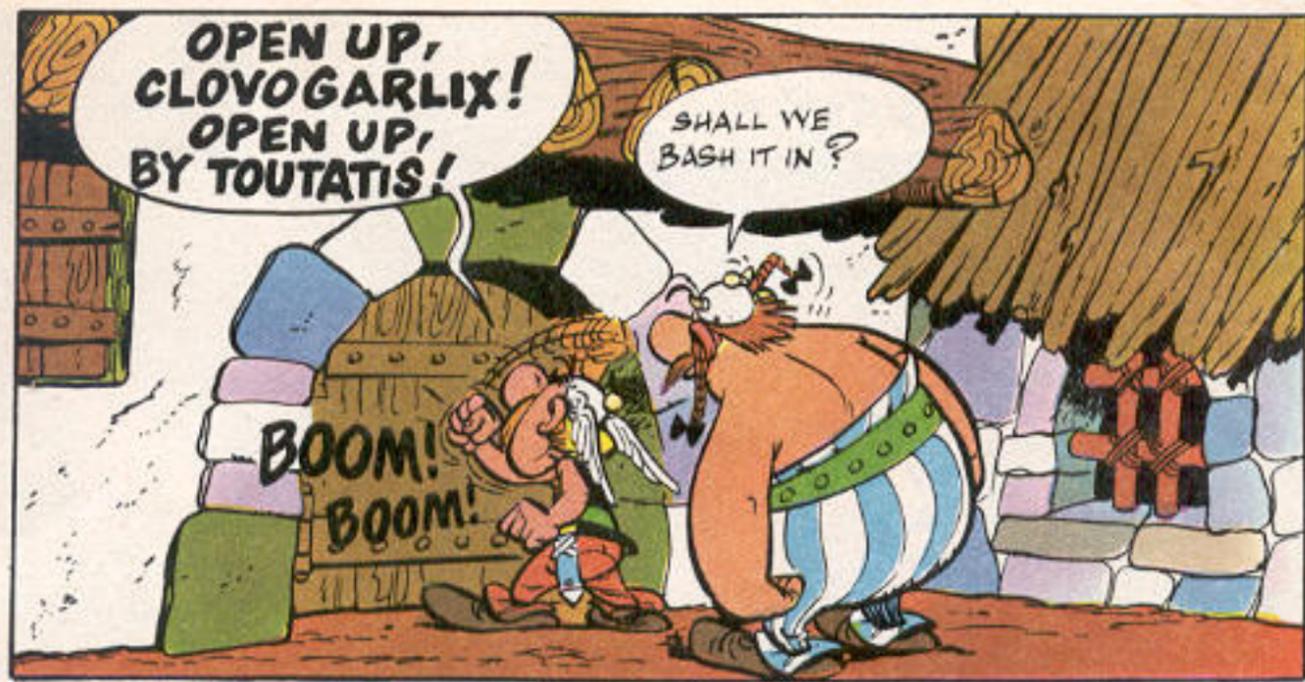
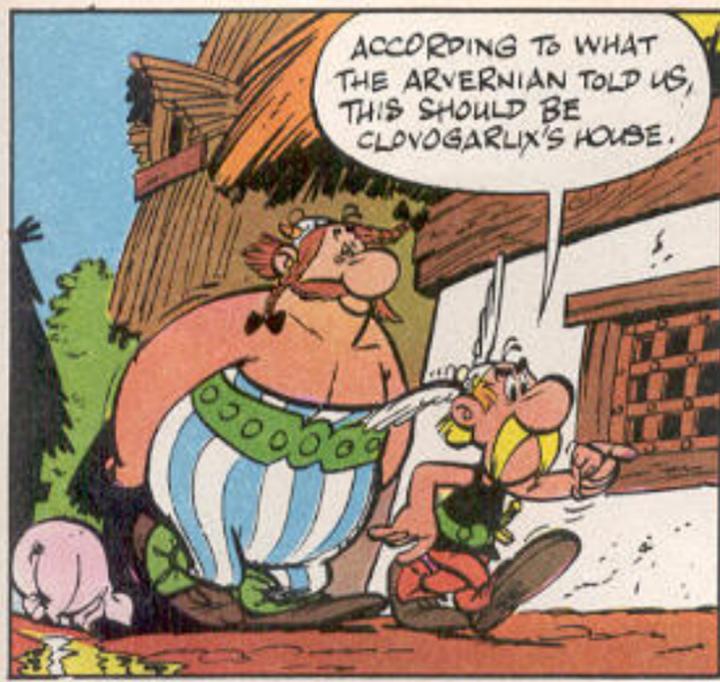


BOOOHOOO! POOR COUSIN METALLURGIX!







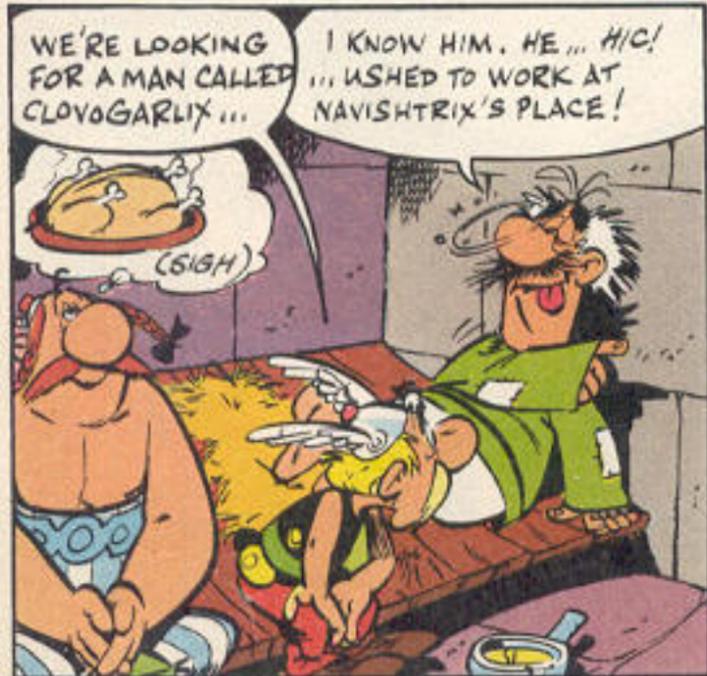




LONG LIVE VERGINGE!!!
"HIC!"... TORIX!



HULLO. WHAT ARE YOU
INSIDE FOR?
"HIC!"



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

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



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



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

ANY IDEA WHERE
NAVISHTRIX AND
CLOYOGARLIX MIGHT
HAVE GONE?



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

UNDER THE
DOLMEN?

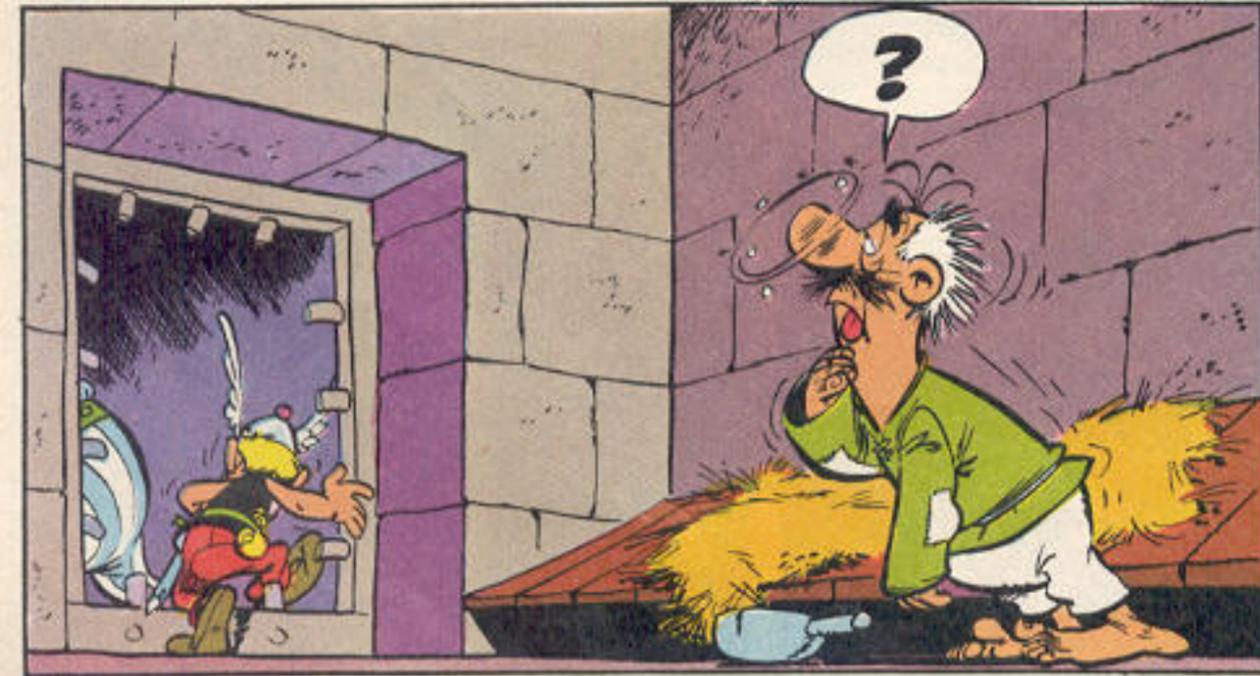


IT'S A CLUE. ONLY A
SLIGHT CLUE, BUT A
CLUE! LET'S GET OUT
OF HERE!

RIGHT.



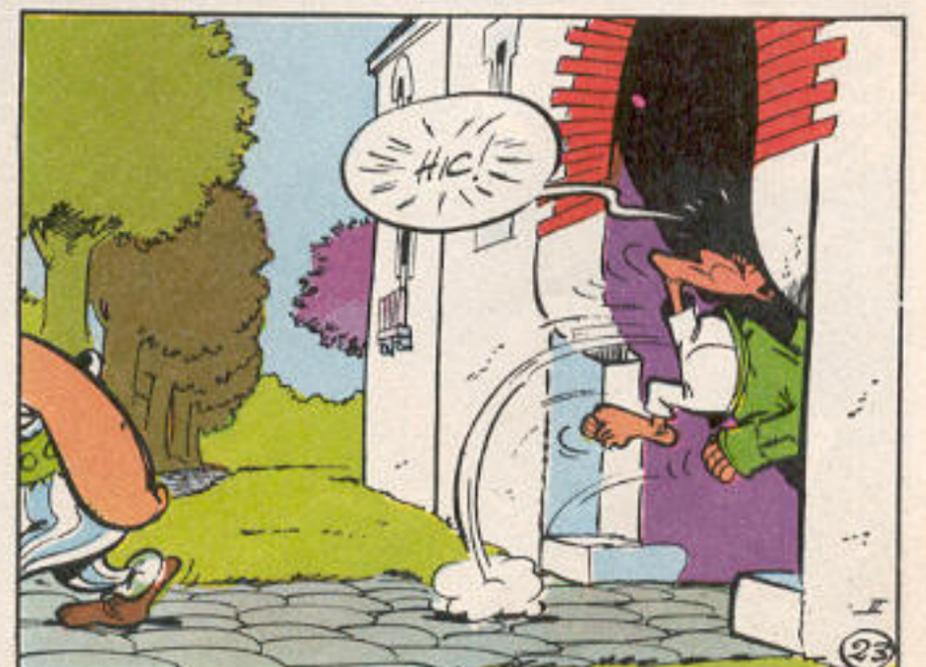
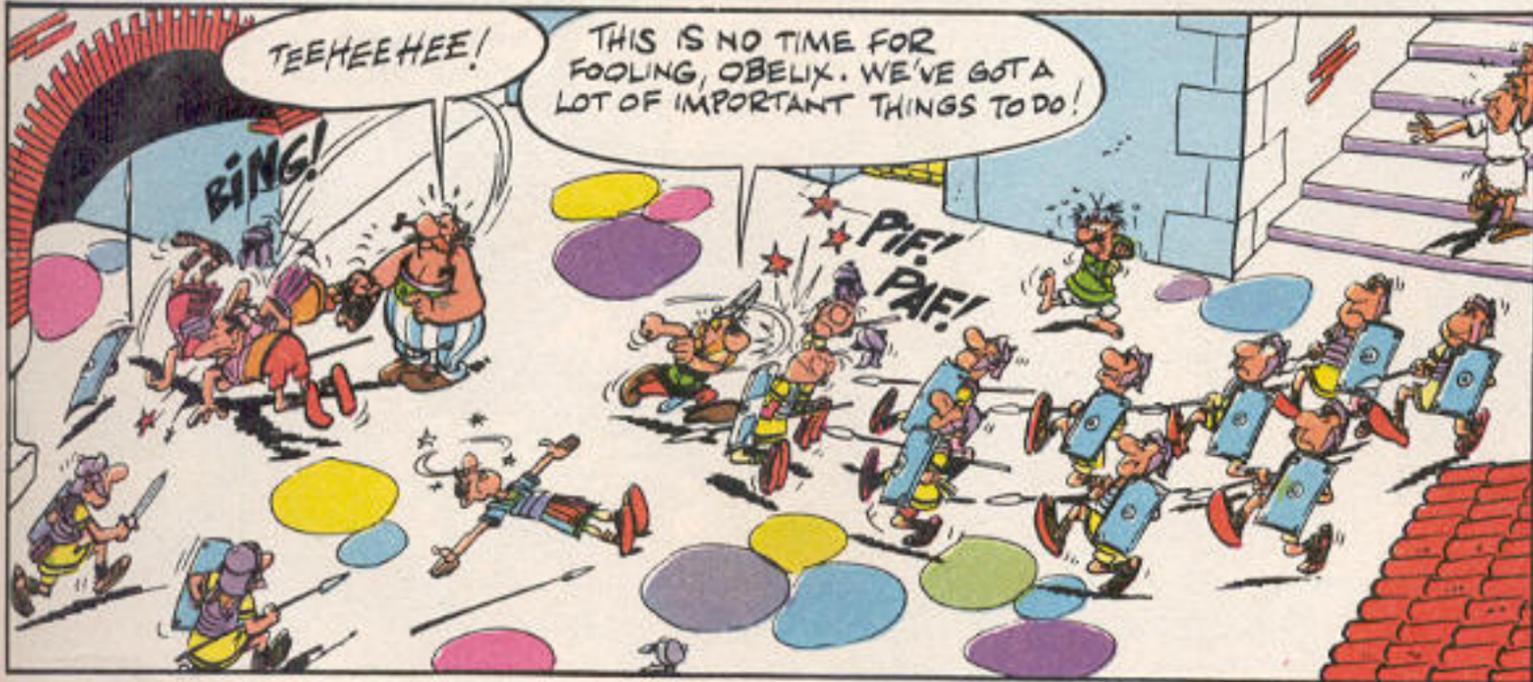
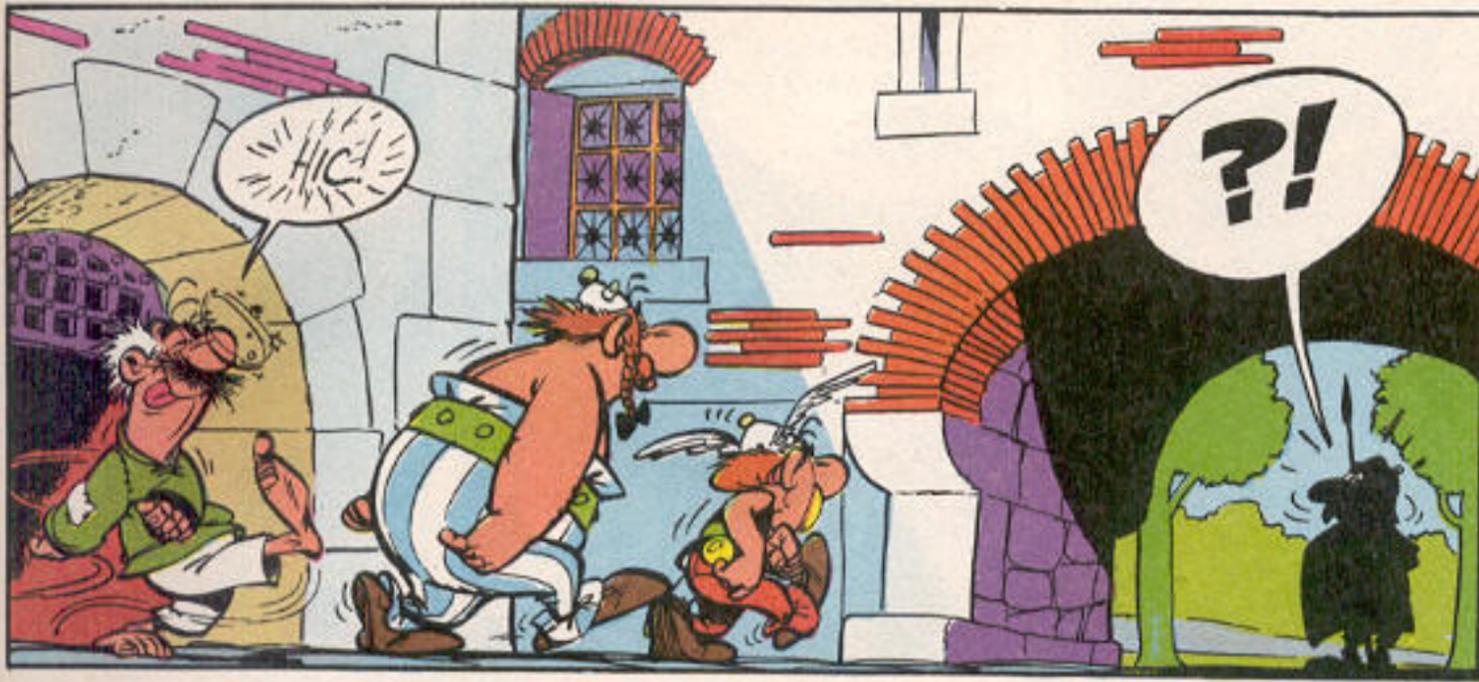
CRAAAAS!



?



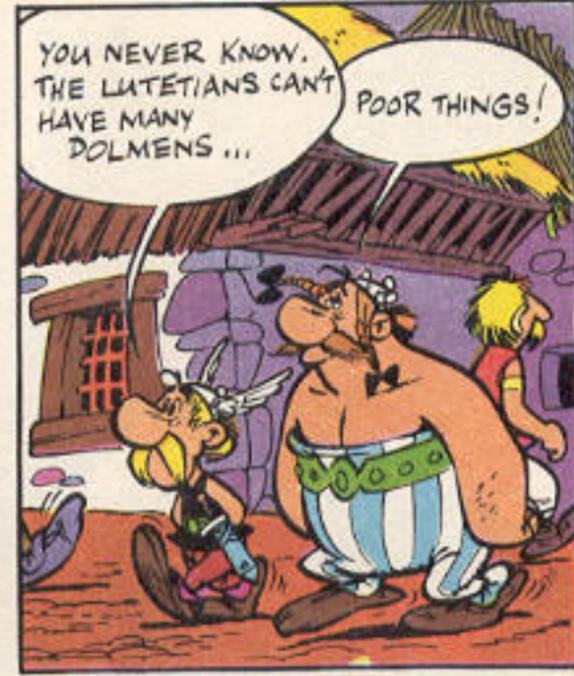
LONG LIVE VERGINGE...VERCEGIN...
"Hic!"...VERCEGINTORIX!





WE MUST FIND THE DOLMEN WHERE CLOVOGARLIX AND NAVISHTRIX MEET!

IT WON'T BE EASY...



YOU NEVER KNOW. THE LUTETIANS CAN'T HAVE MANY DOLMENS...

POOR THINGS!



WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET SOME INFORMATION OVER THERE...



Visit Lutetia
CLAUDIUS OMNIBUS, GUIDE

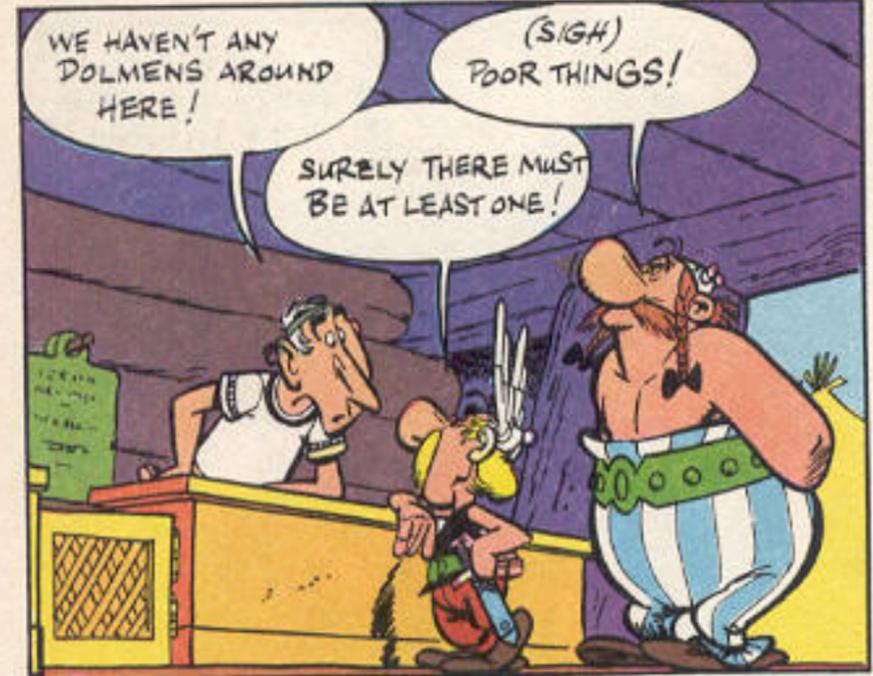
LATIN SPOKEN
CELTIC SPOKEN
Gothic Spoken



DO YOU WANT TO SEE OUR BEAUTIFUL CITY?

NO, WE WANT TO SEE SOME DOLMENS!

LUTETIA NIGHTS
ILLUMINATIONS
AMUSEMENTS
GUESTY
3 SESTERTII



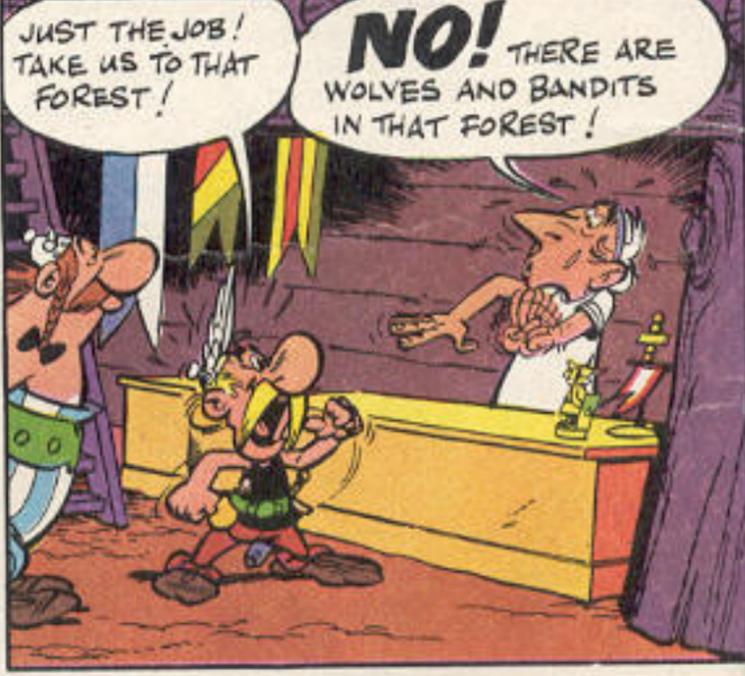
WE HAVEN'T ANY DOLMENS AROUND HERE!

(SIGH) POOR THINGS!

SURELY THERE MUST BE AT LEAST ONE!

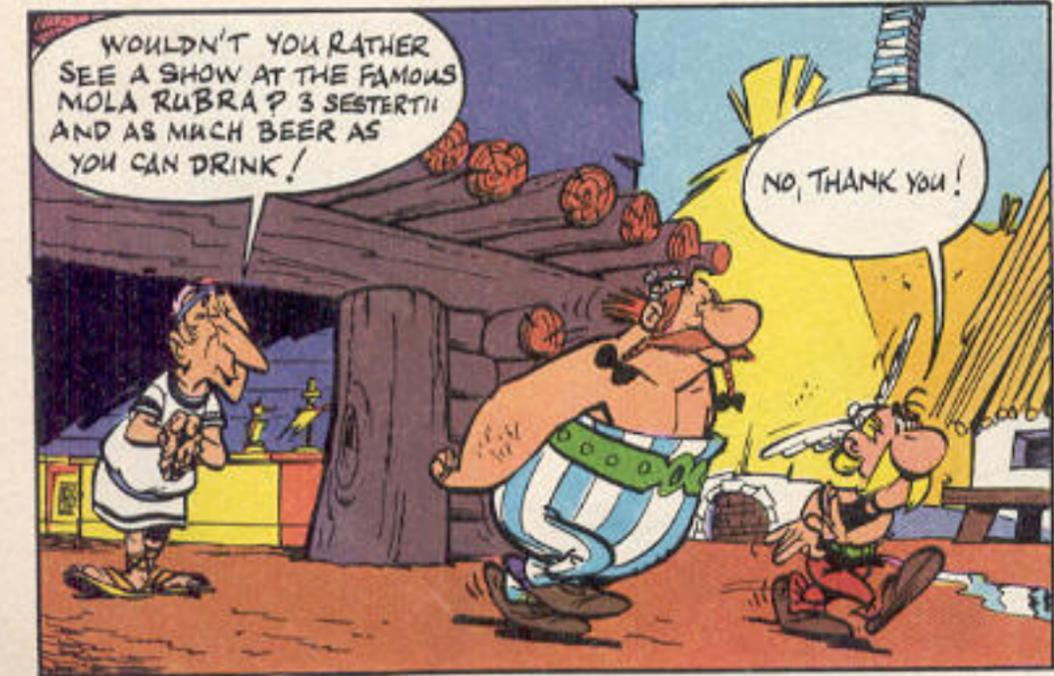


JUST A MINUTE... NOW I COME TO THINK OF IT, I HAVE HEARD OF A DOLMEN IN THE FOREST... THE FOREST OVER WHERE THE SUN SETS...



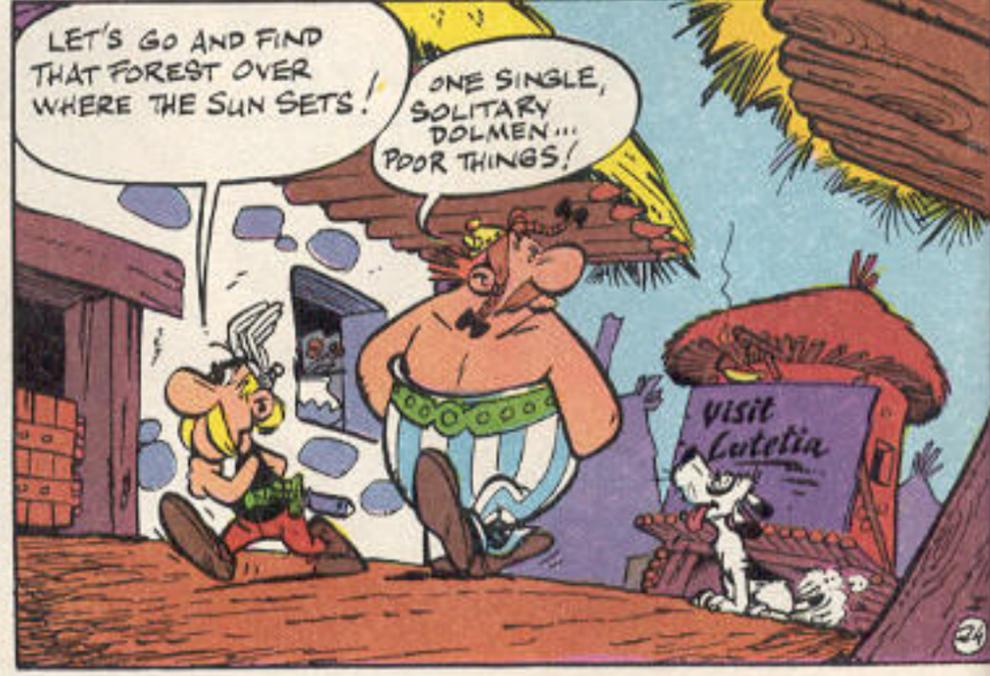
JUST THE JOB! TAKE US TO THAT FOREST!

NO! THERE ARE WOLVES AND BANDITS IN THAT FOREST!



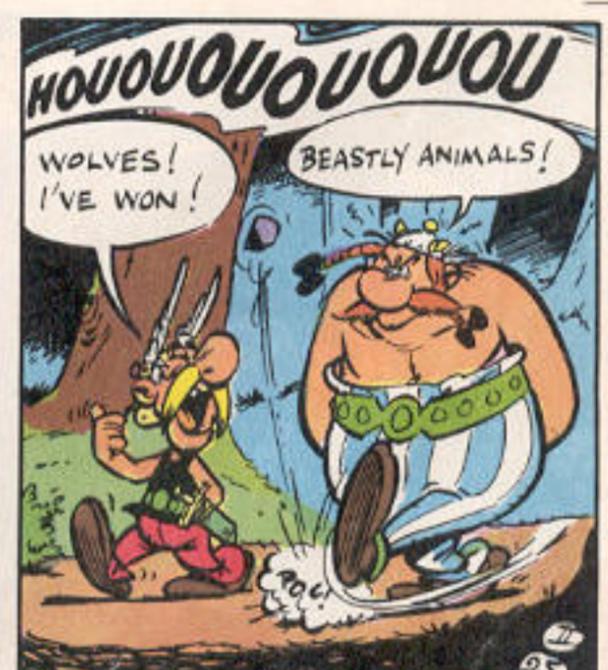
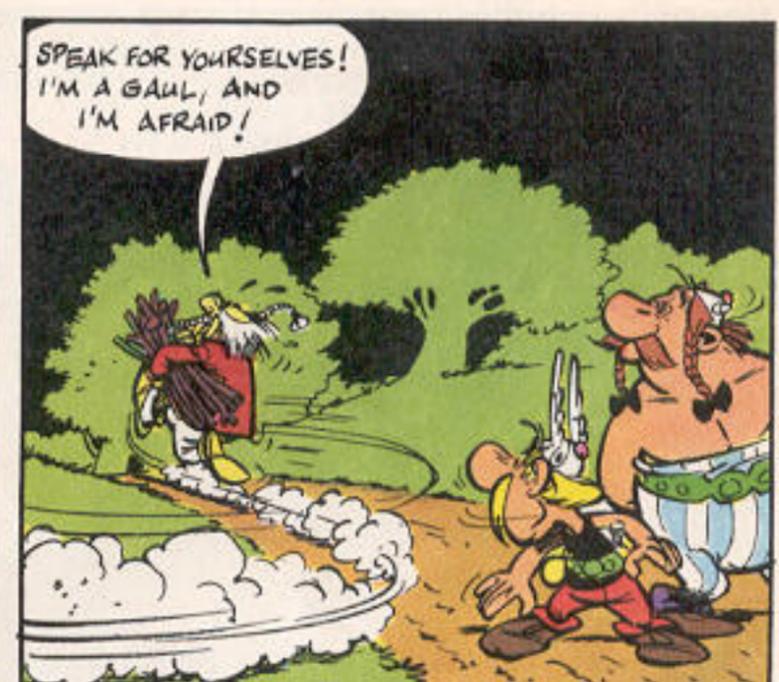
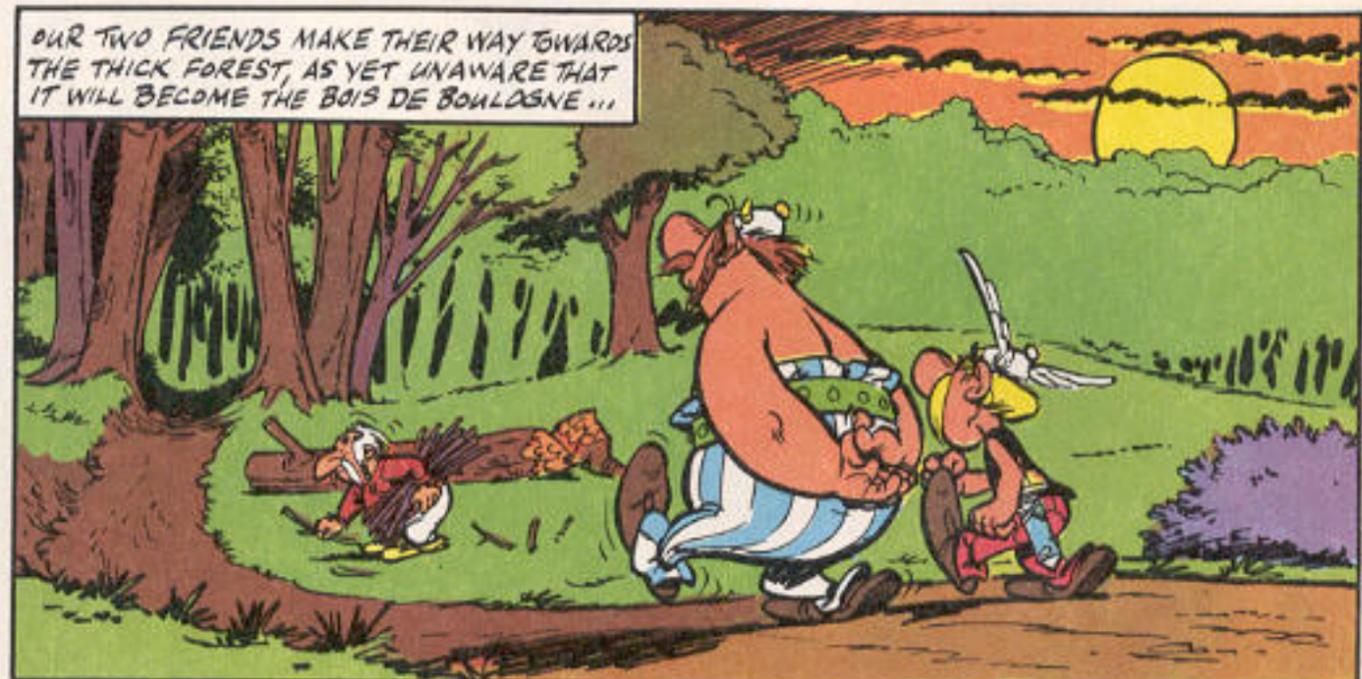
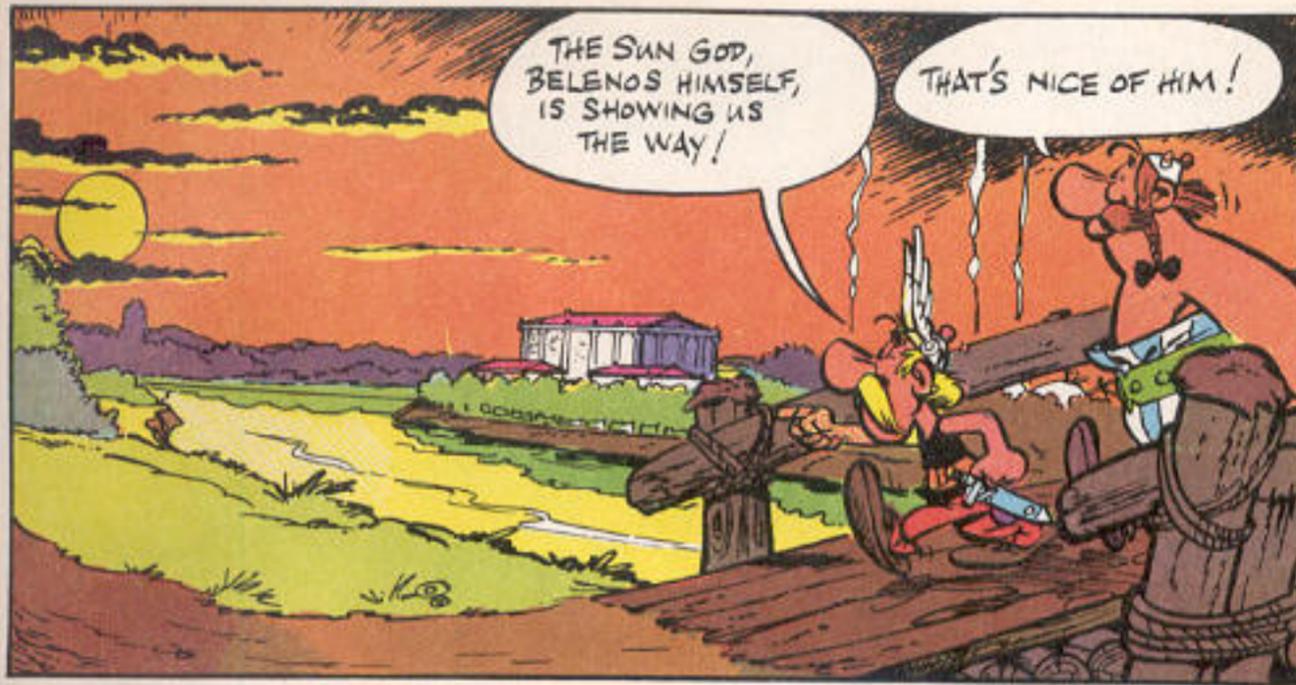
WOULDN'T YOU RATHER SEE A SHOW AT THE FAMOUS MOLA RUBRA? 3 SESTERTII AND AS MUCH BEER AS YOU CAN DRINK!

NO, THANK YOU!



LET'S GO AND FIND THAT FOREST OVER WHERE THE SUN SETS!

ONE SINGLE, SOLITARY DOLMEN... POOR THINGS!





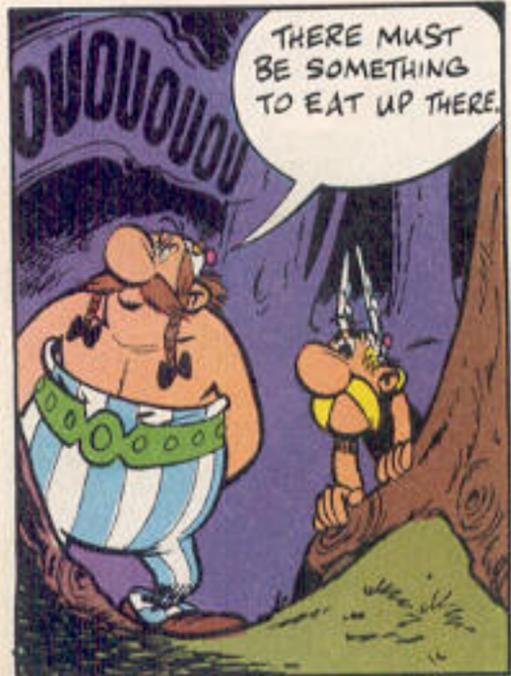
THE HOWLING'S COMING FROM OVER THERE...

IT'S ALWAYS ME WHO LOSES BETS! IT'S NOT FAIR!



WHAT DID I TELL YOU?

OH, OF COURSE, MISTER ASTERIX IS THE CLEVER ONE, MISTER ASTERIX KNOWS EVERYTHING!



THERE MUST BE SOMETHING TO EAT UP THERE.



HELP!

WHAT DID I TELL YOU?

YOU'VE STILL LOST THE BET, SMARTY!



THAT BET WASN'T FAIR! IT WAS YOU WHO THOUGHT OF IT!

DON'T BE SUCH A ROTTEN SPORT, OBELIX!



SORRY TO INTERRUPT, BUT COULD YOU POSSIBLY SEE YOUR WAY TO HELPING ME?



WE'RE COMING!

VERY KIND OF YOU!

GRRRRRR RRRR



BEASTLY ANIMALS! BEASTLY ANIMALS! AND WE CAN'T EVEN EAT YOU!

BAD WOLFIE! BACK TO YOUR KENNEL!

PAF!

BOP!

HELP! HELP! HELP!



YOU CAN COME DOWN NOW. THEY'VE ALL GONE.

REALLY?

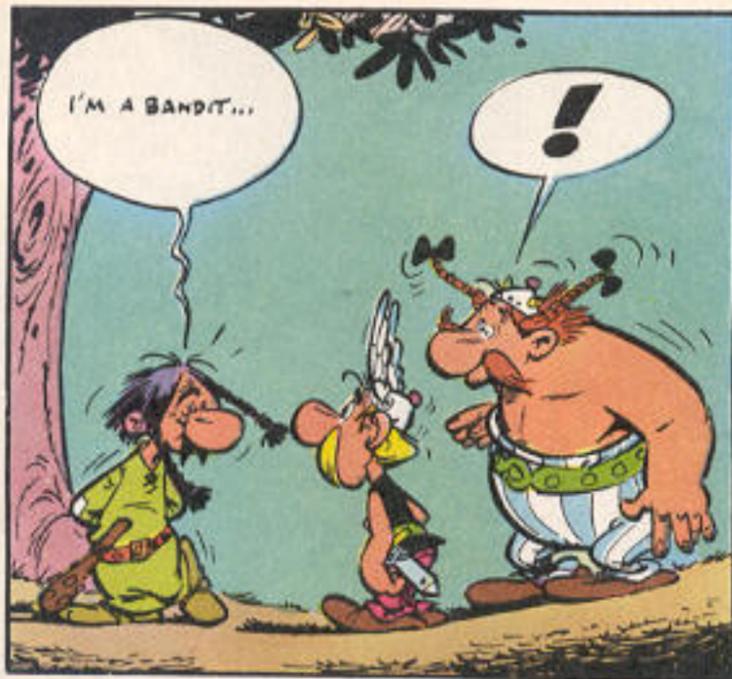
BOO!

!?



THANK YOU VERY MUCH, GENTLEMEN.

WHO ARE YOU?



I'M A BANDIT...

!



COULDN'T YOU HAVE COME ON THE SCENE A BIT SOONER? THEN I'D HAVE WON MY BET!

PUT ME DOWN!

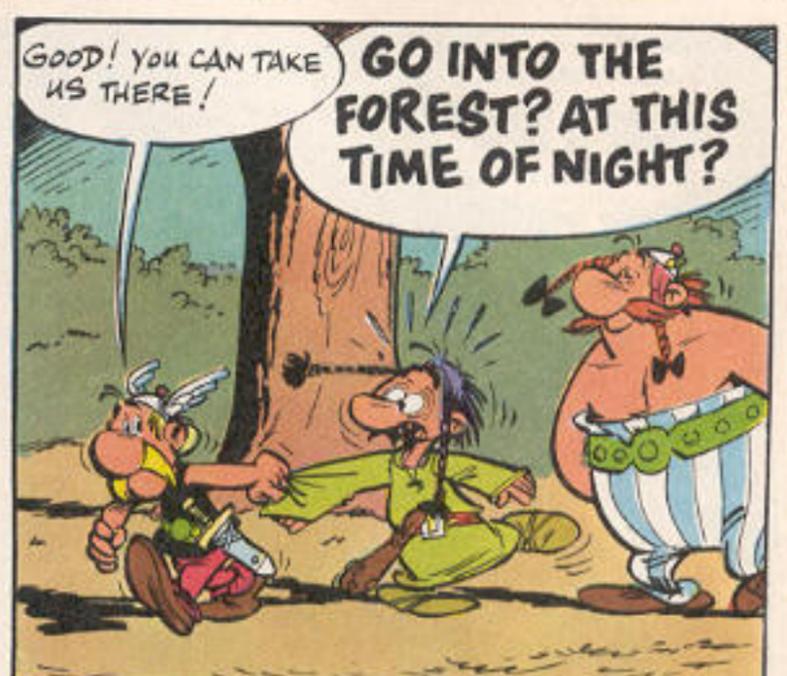


OH, VERY WELL!



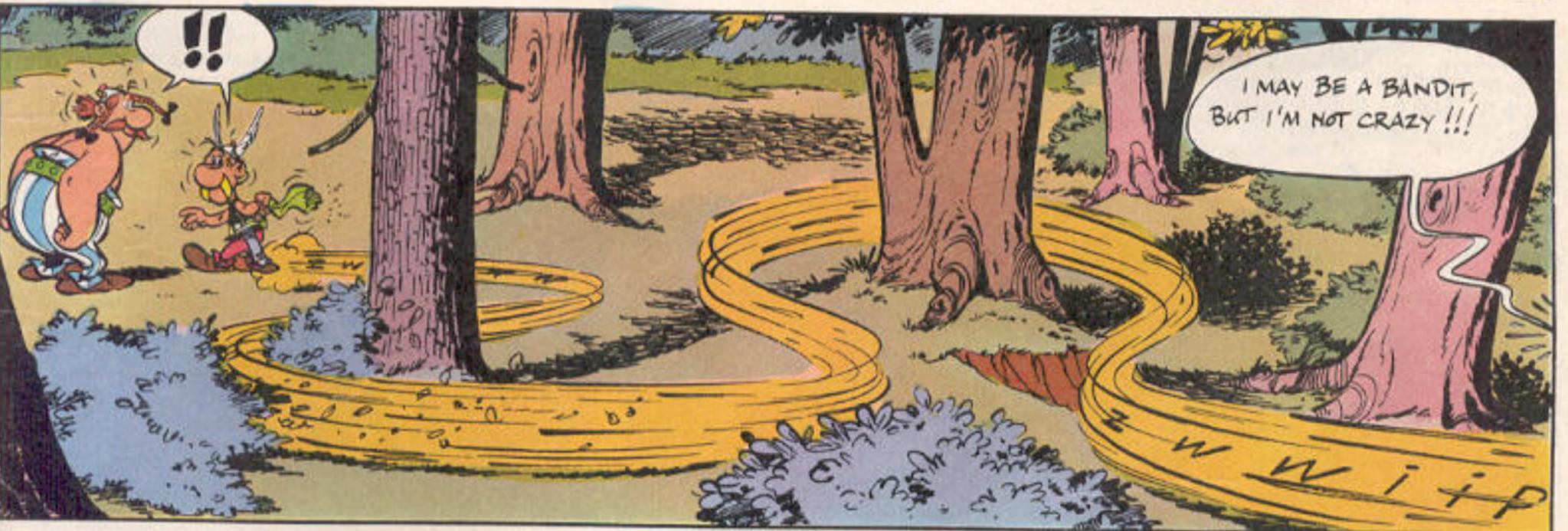
TELL ME, BANDIT, DO YOU KNOW OF A DOLMEN IN THIS FOREST?

THERE'S A DOLMEN NEAR THE BIG OAK TREE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE FOREST...



GOOD! YOU CAN TAKE US THERE!

GO INTO THE FOREST? AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT?



!!

I MAY BE A BANDIT, BUT I'M NOT CRAZY!!!



SHALL WE GET HIM BACK?

THERE'S NO NEED. WE'LL FIND IT OURSELVES QUITE EASILY.

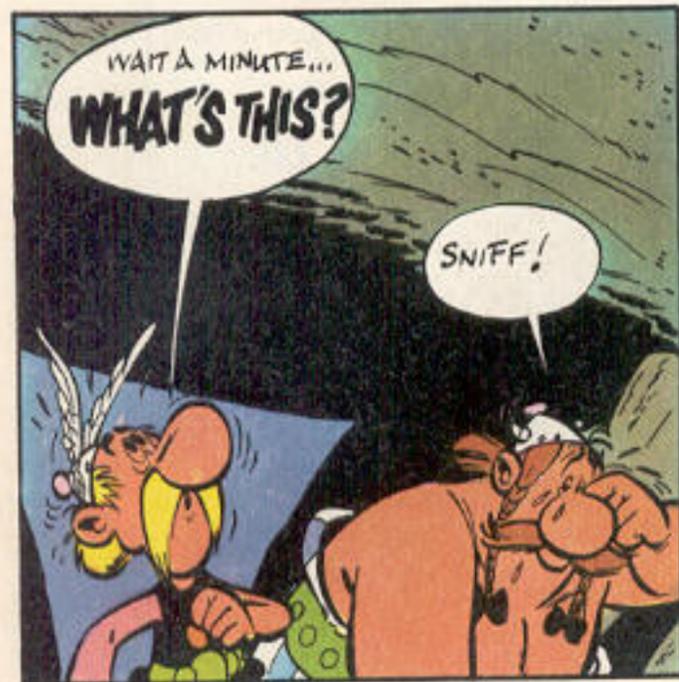


BRAOUM!

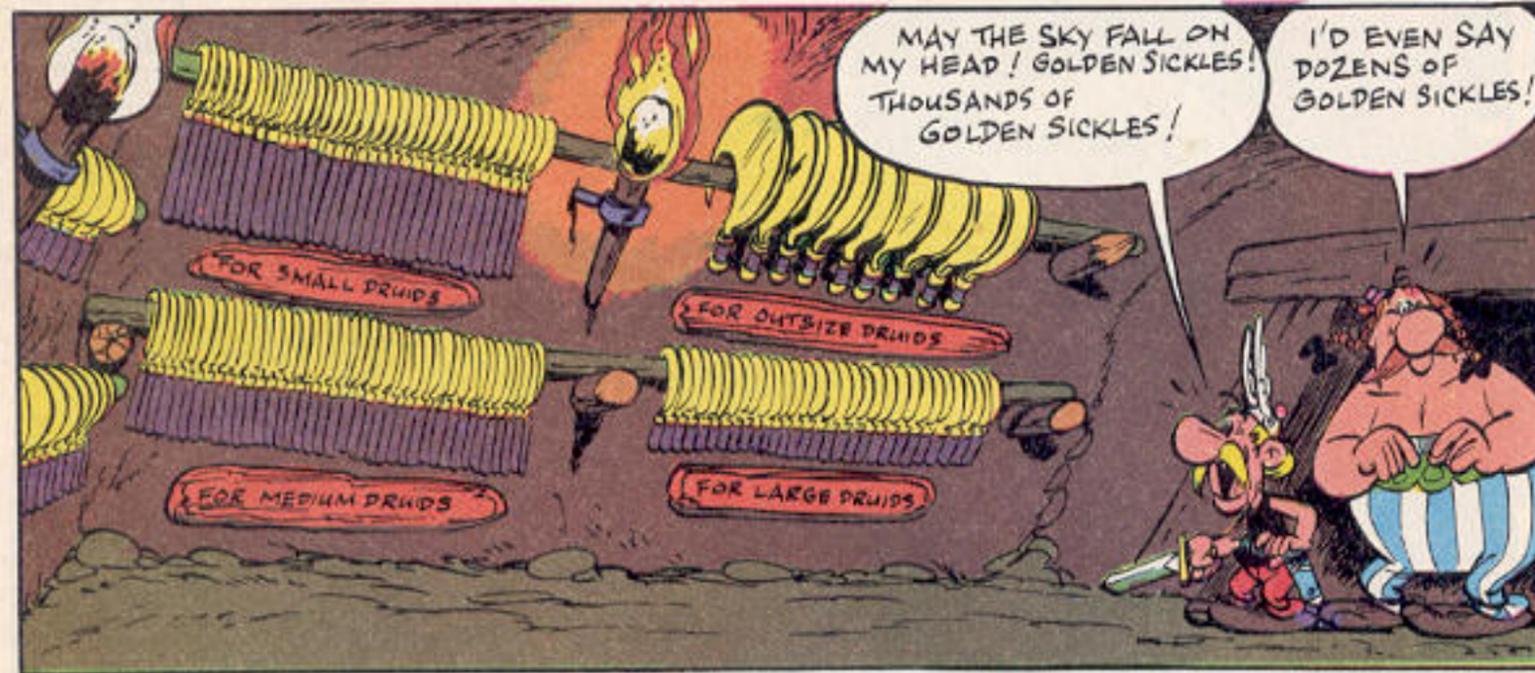
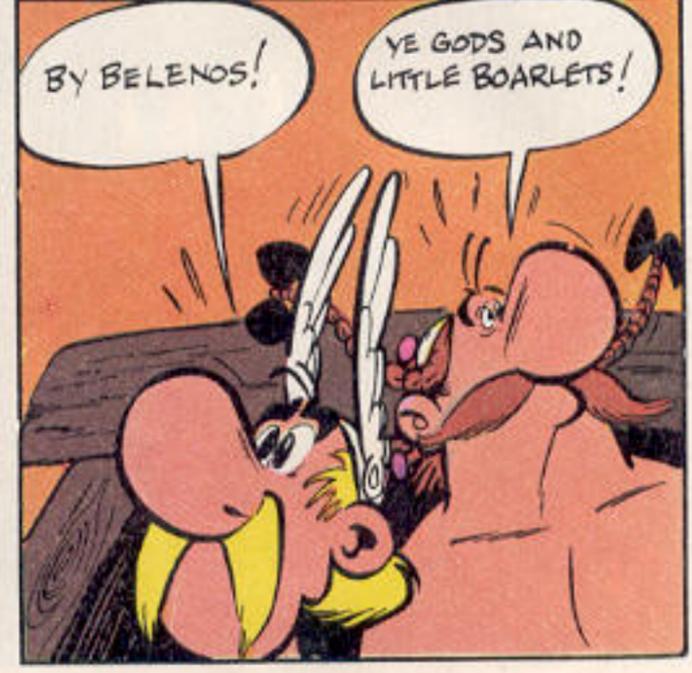
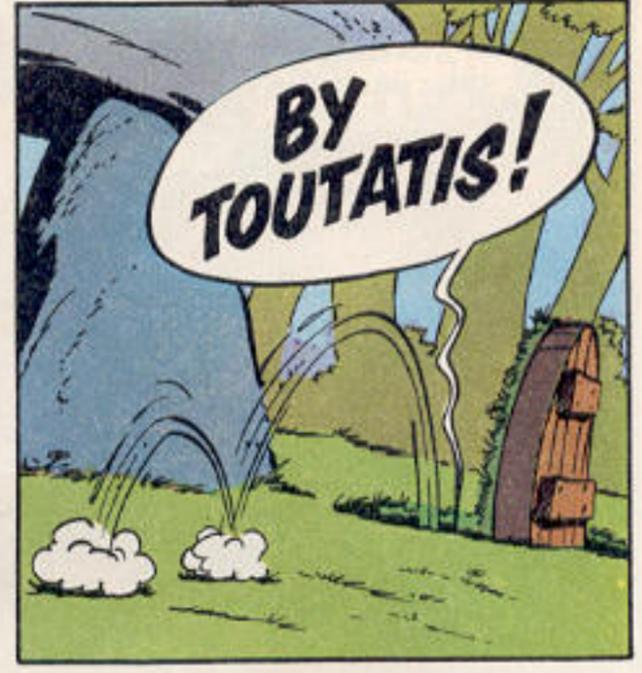


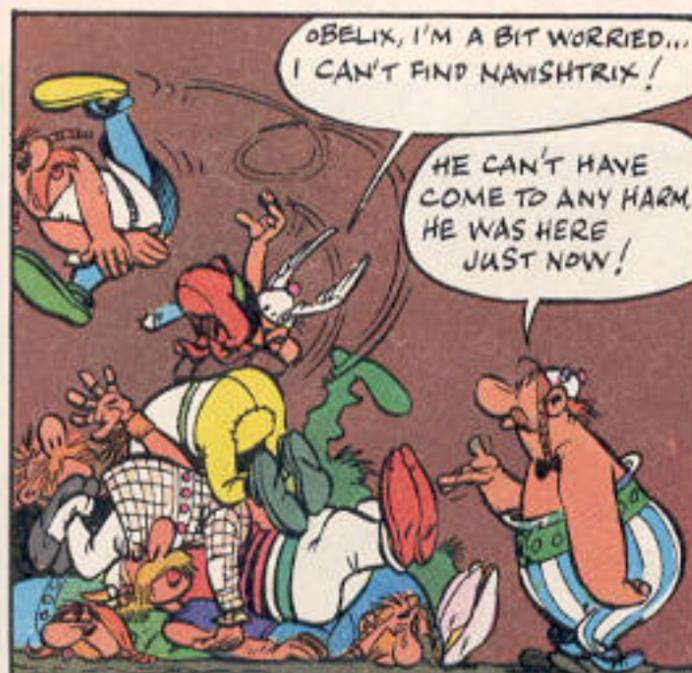
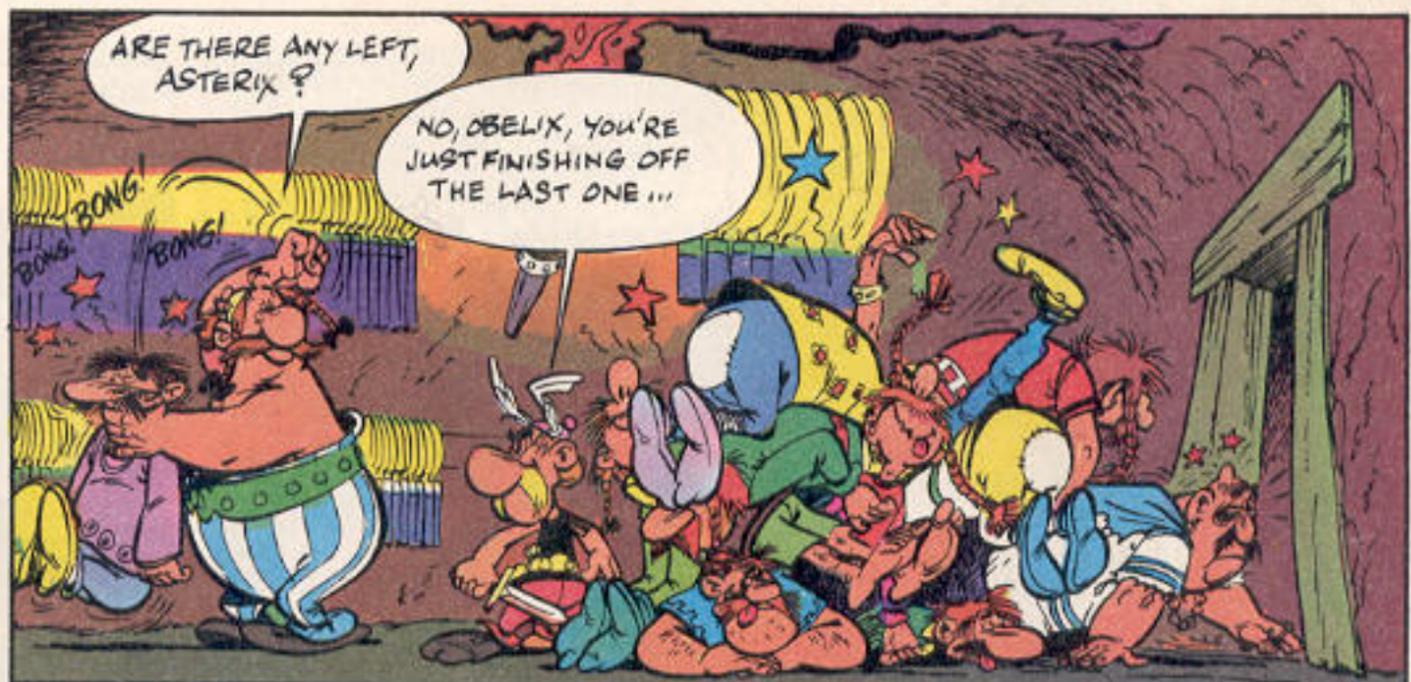
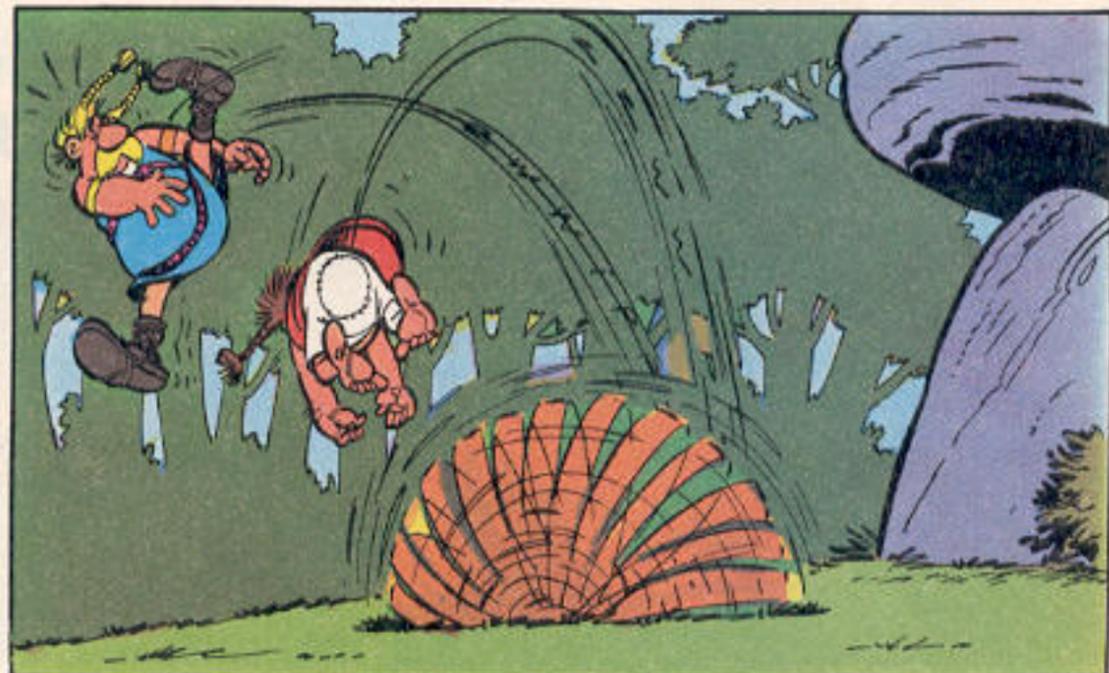
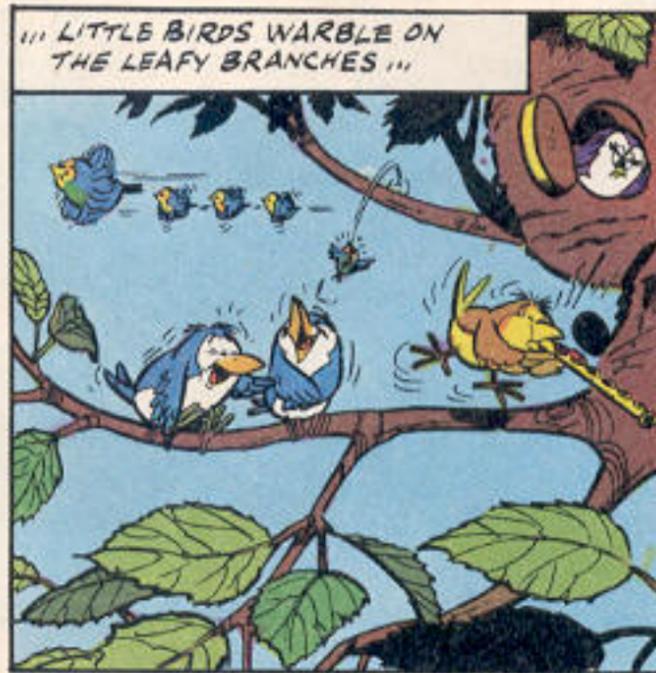
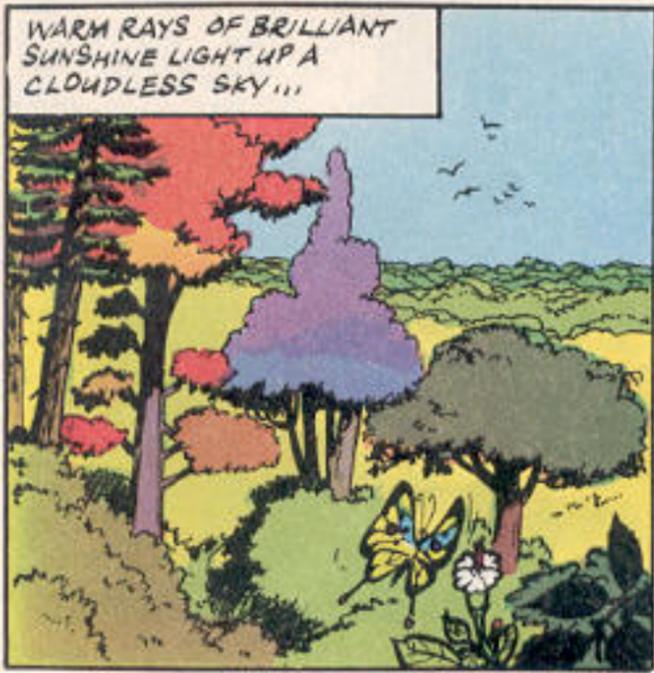
I CAN'T SEE A THING, AND IT'S RAINING!

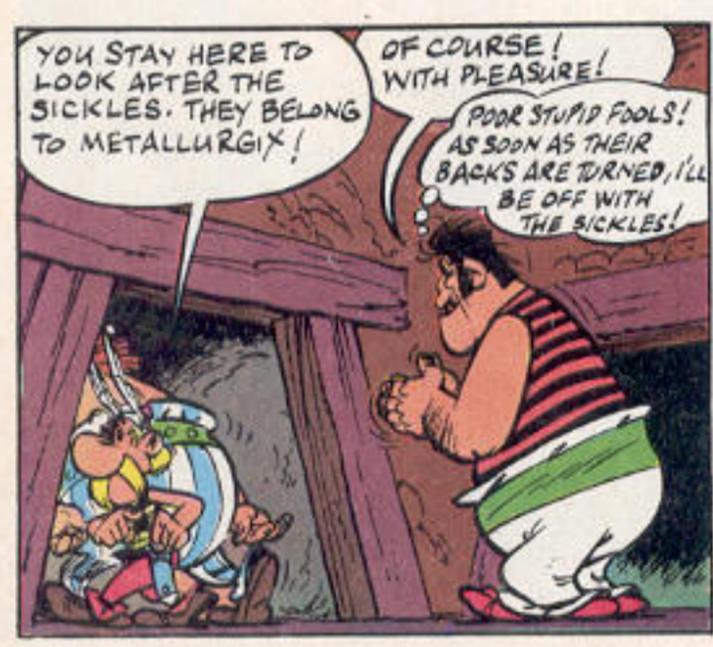
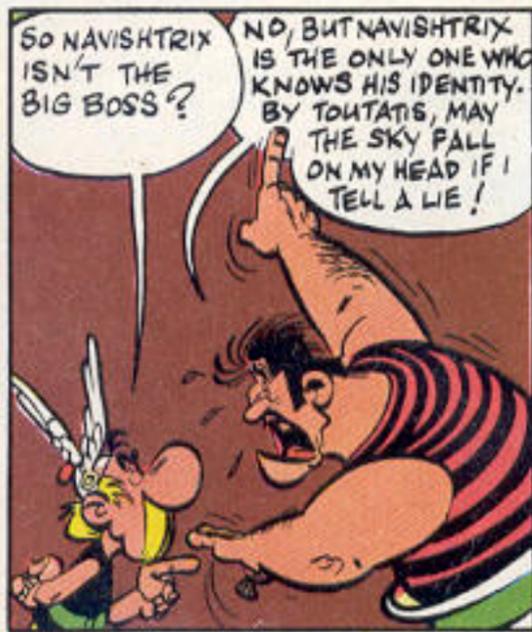
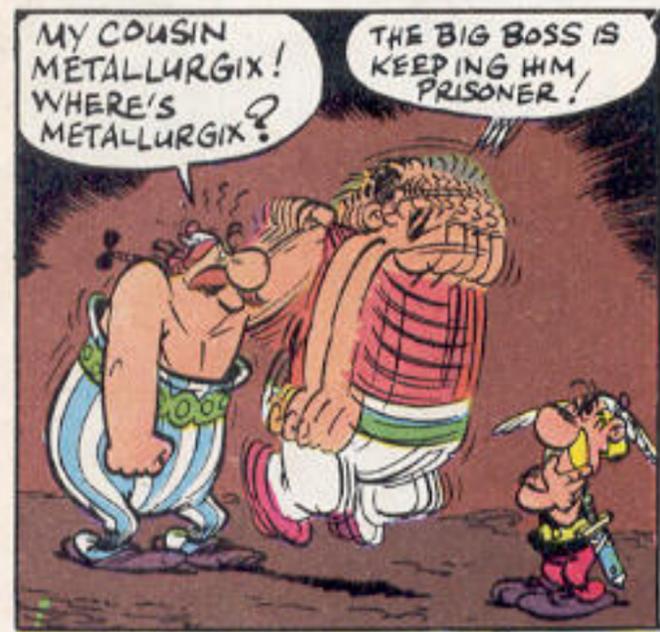
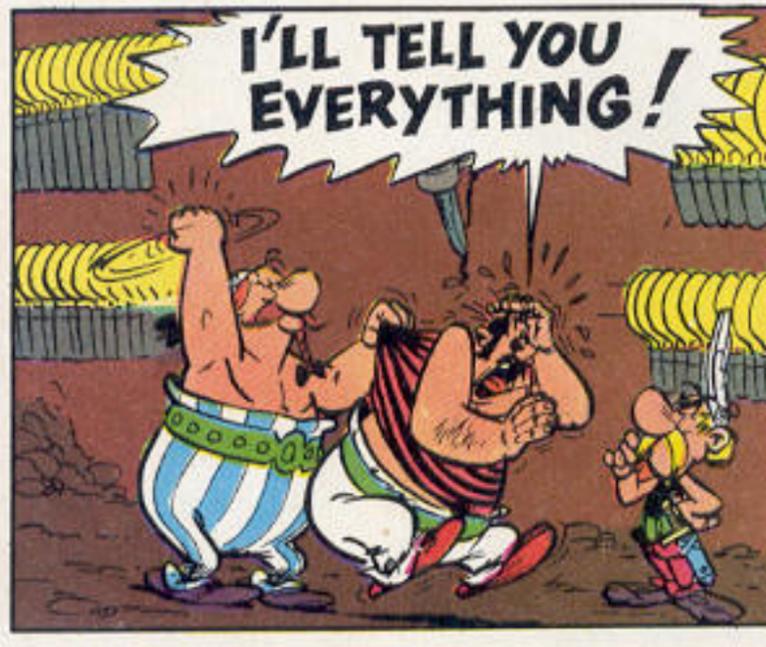
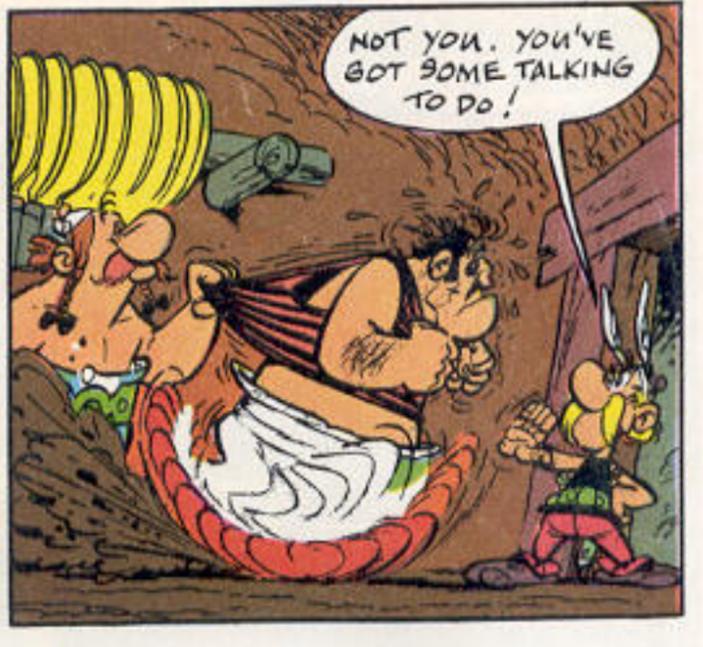
YOU'RE RIGHT, DBELIX. I'M COMPLETELY LOST! LET'S SHELTER HERE...

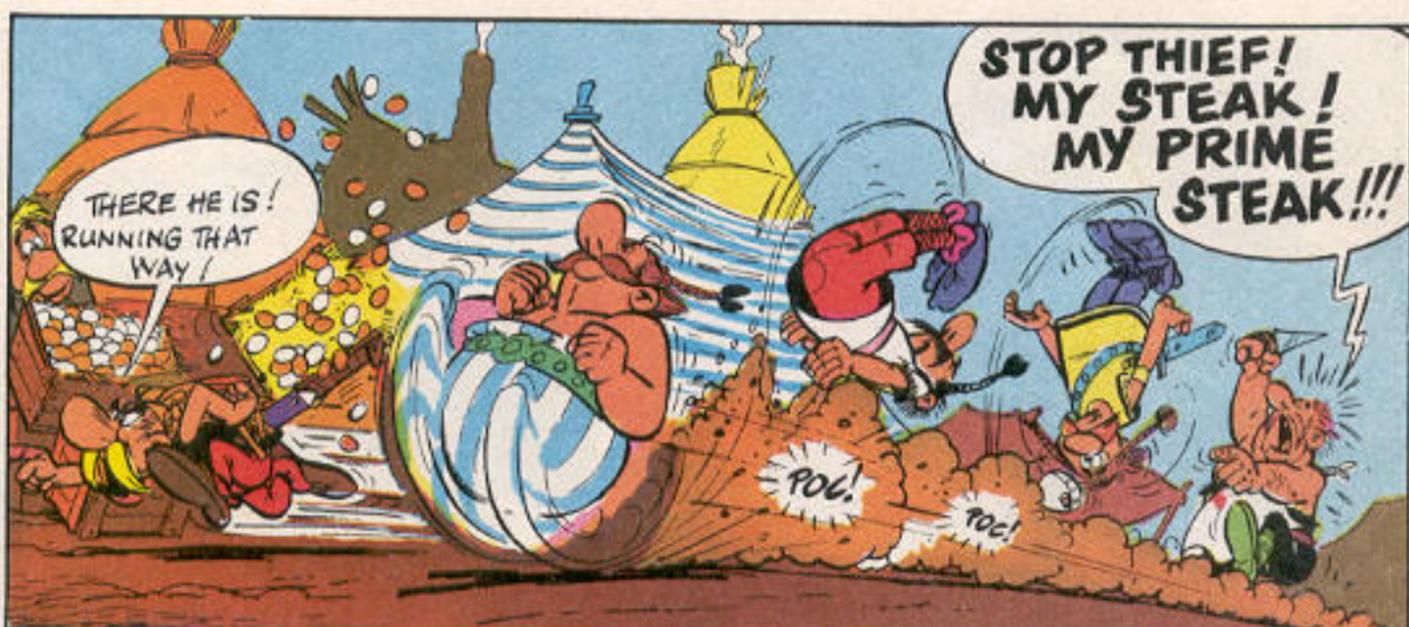
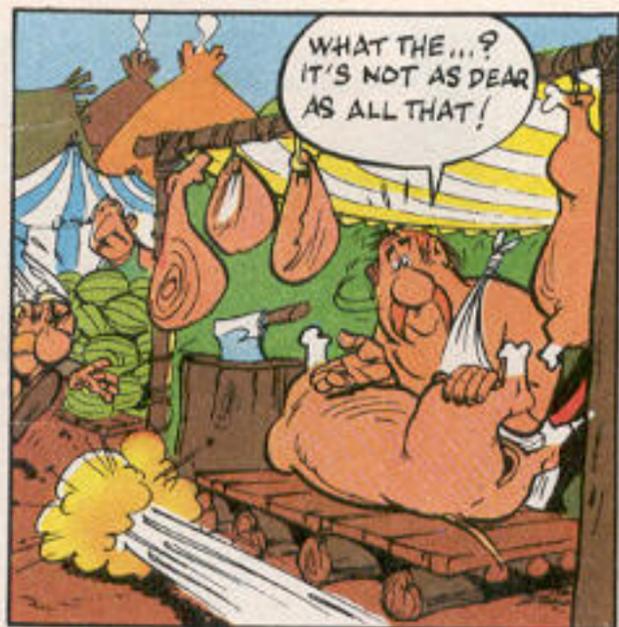
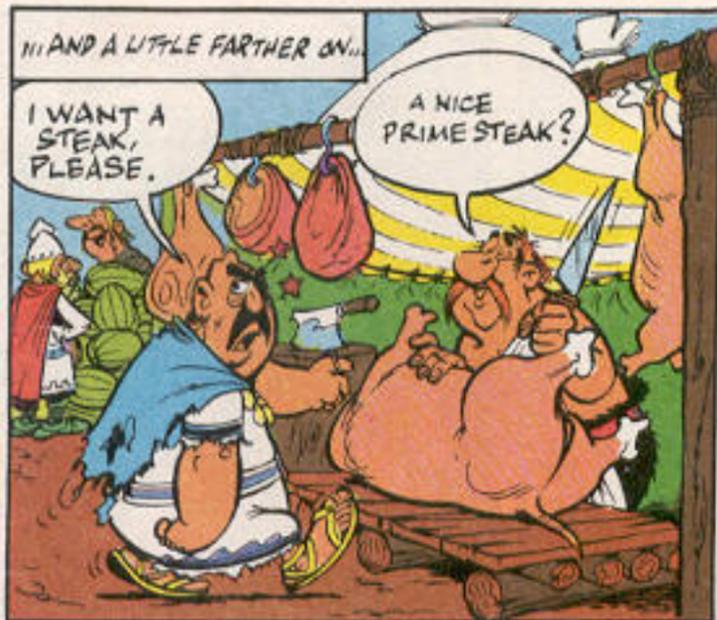


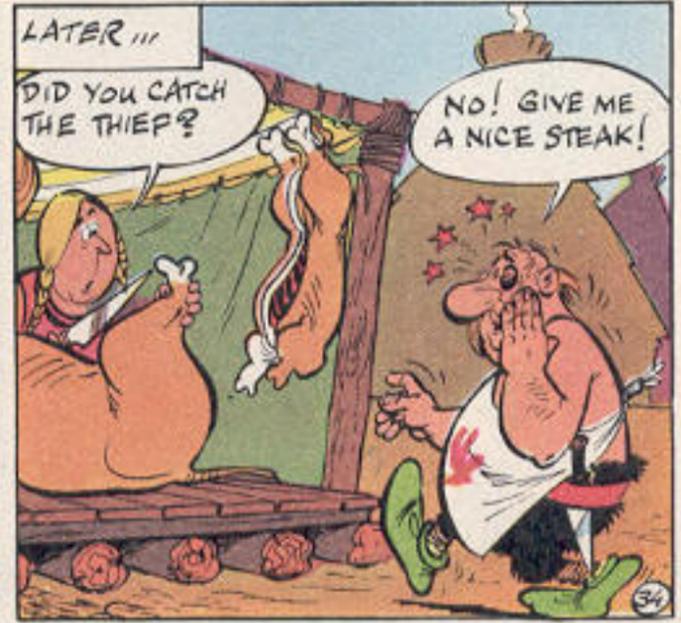
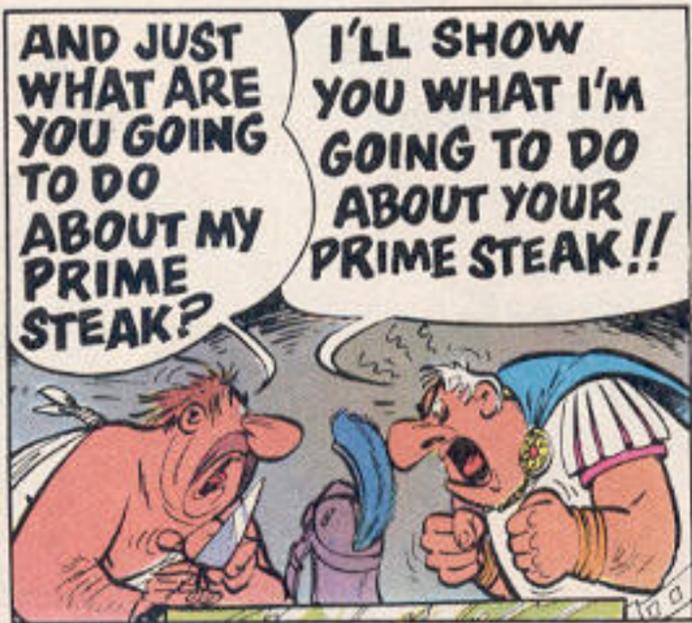
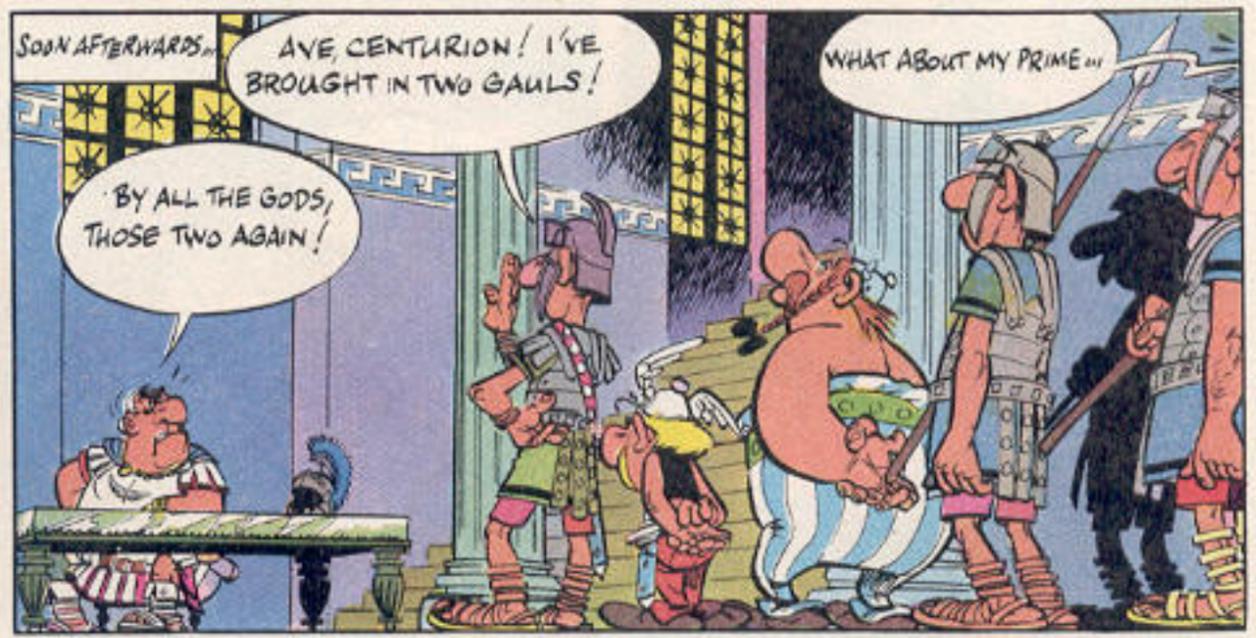
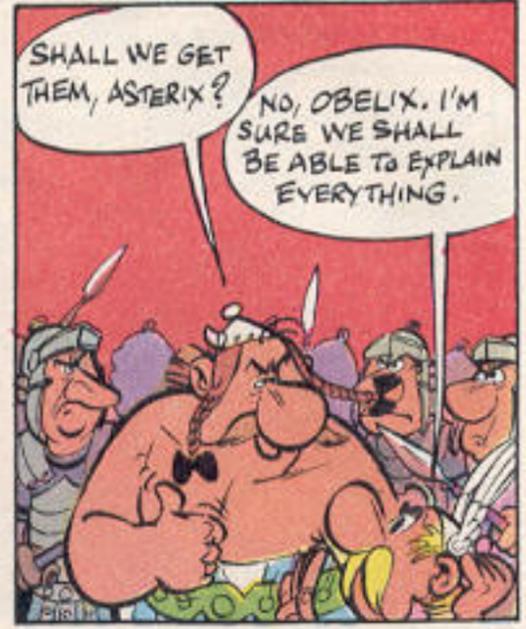
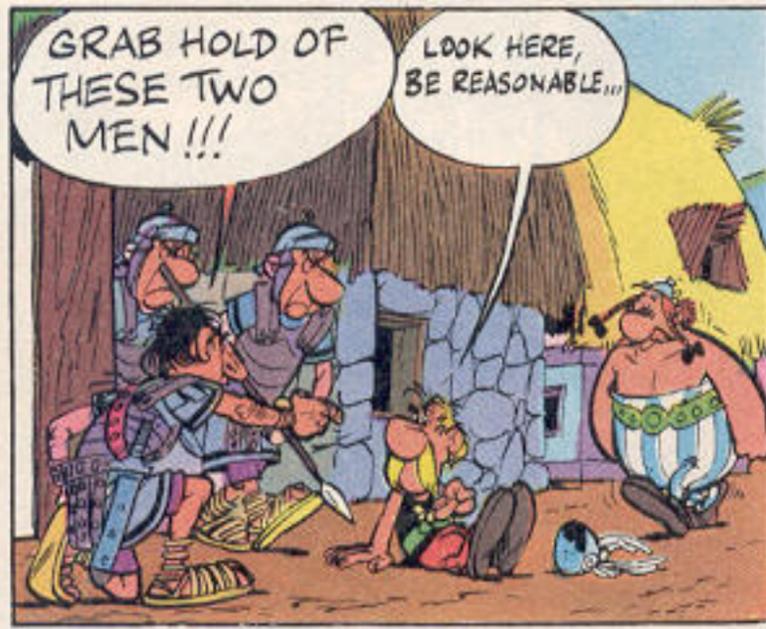
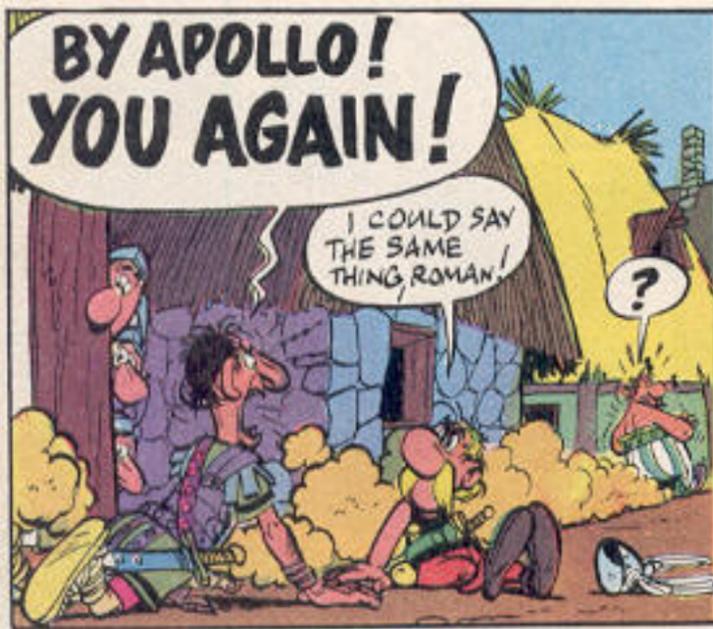
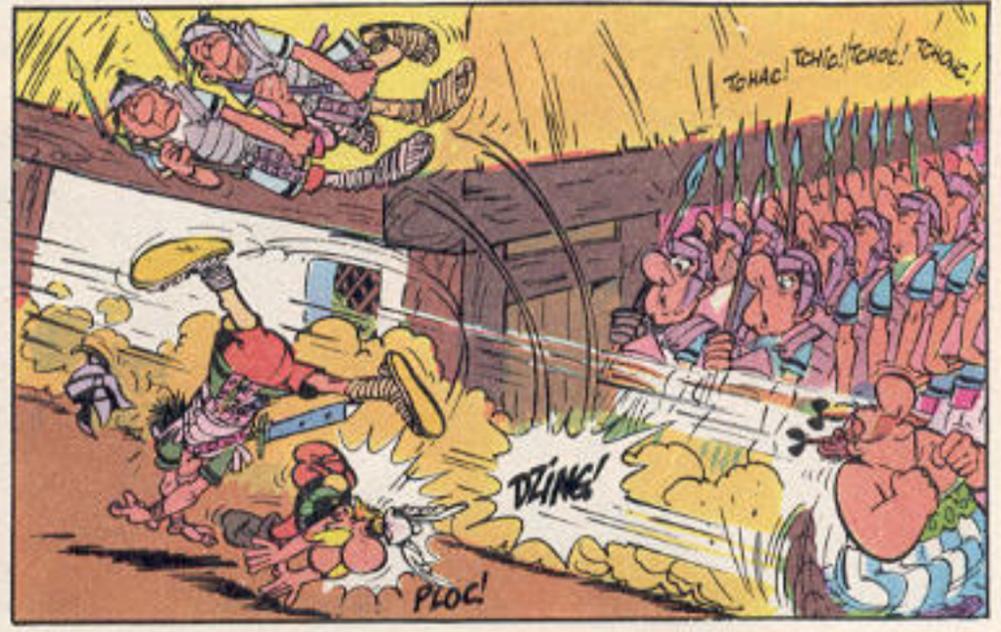


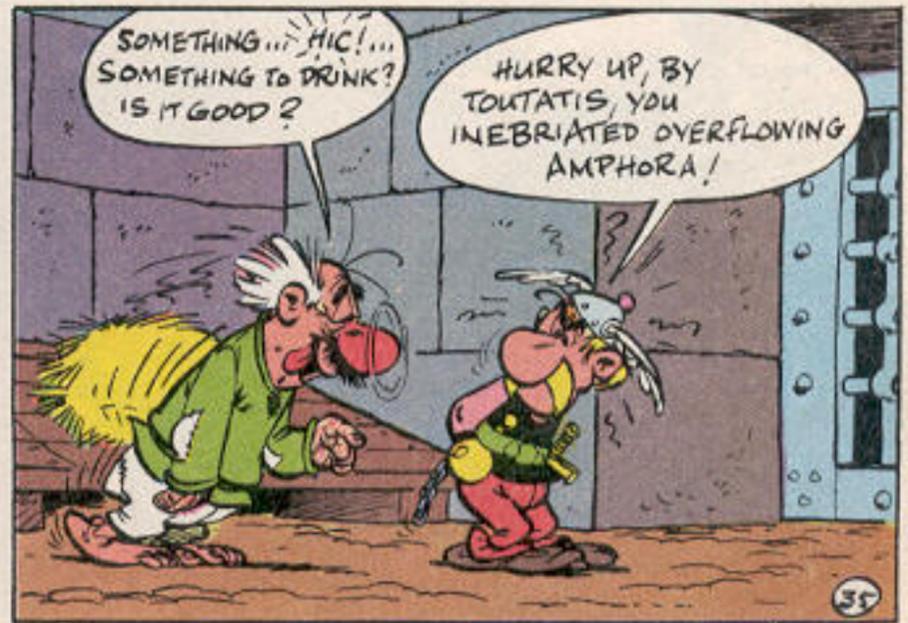
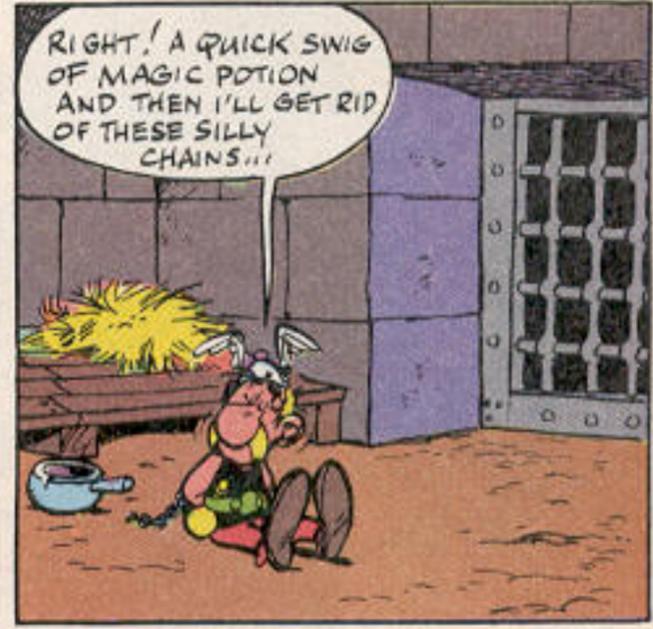
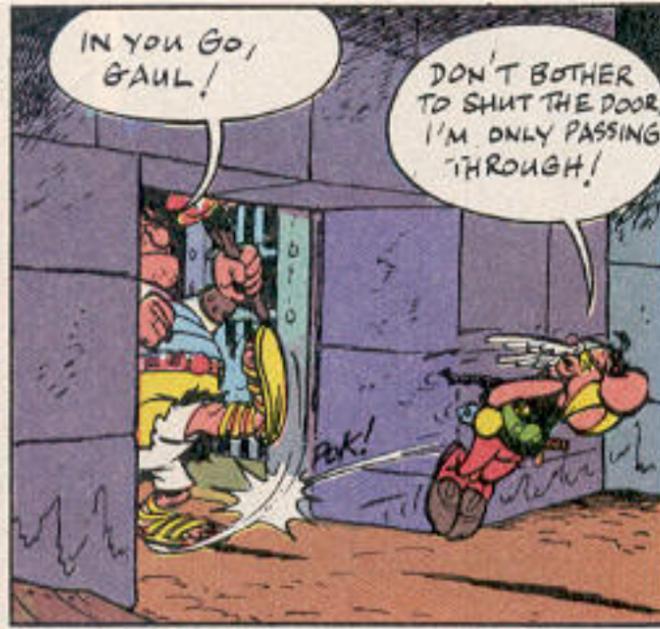
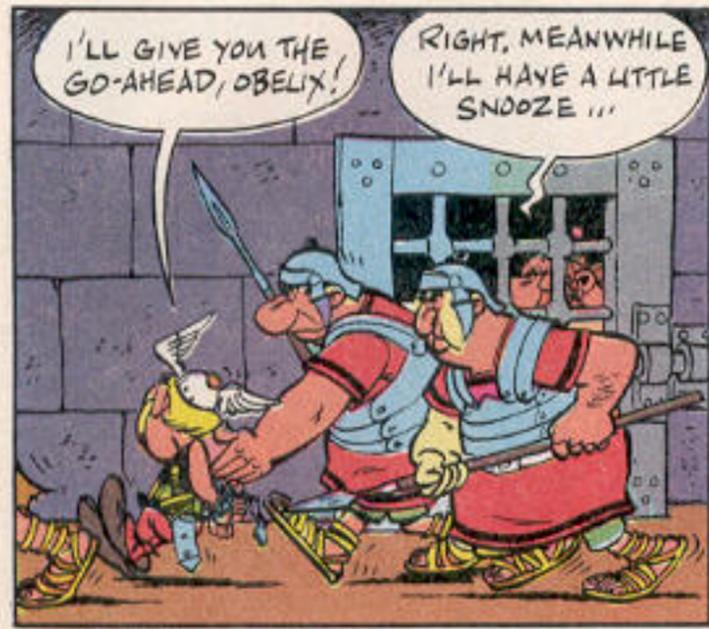
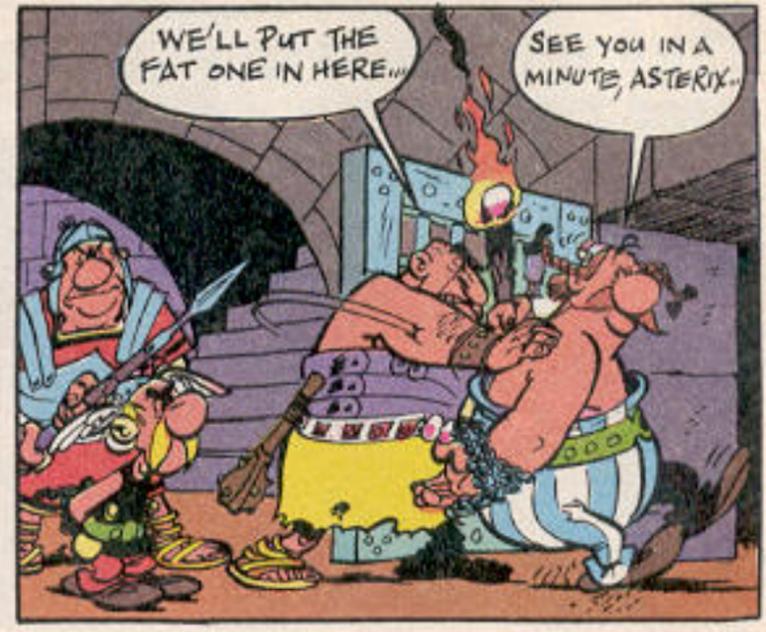
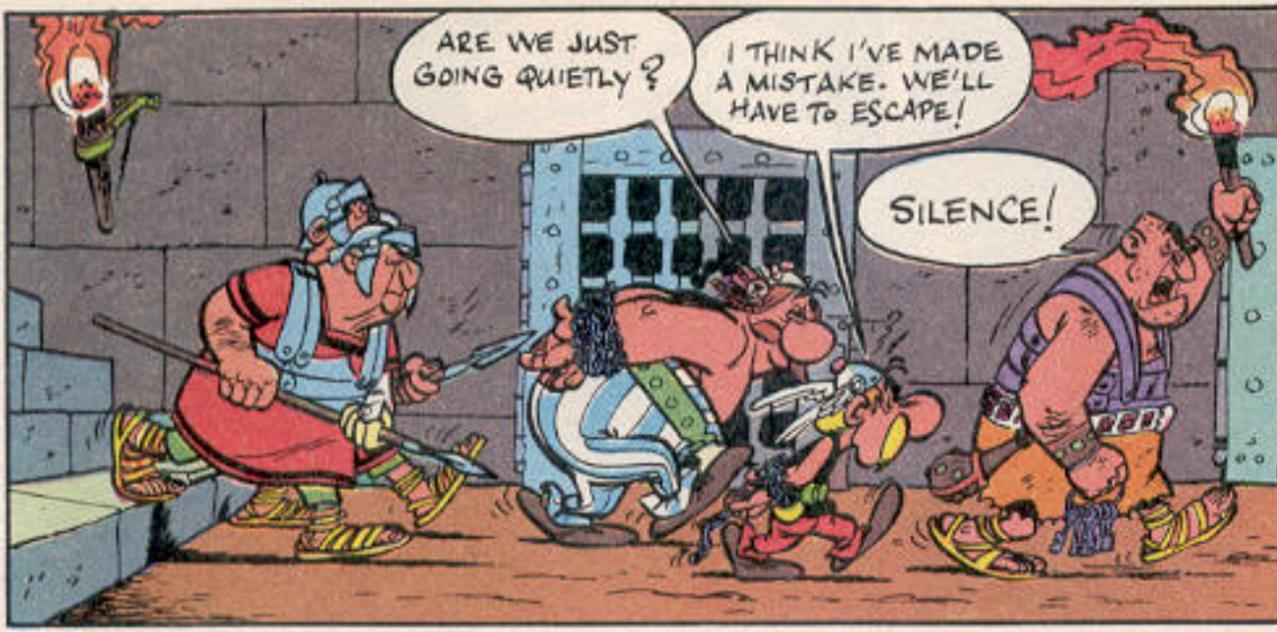


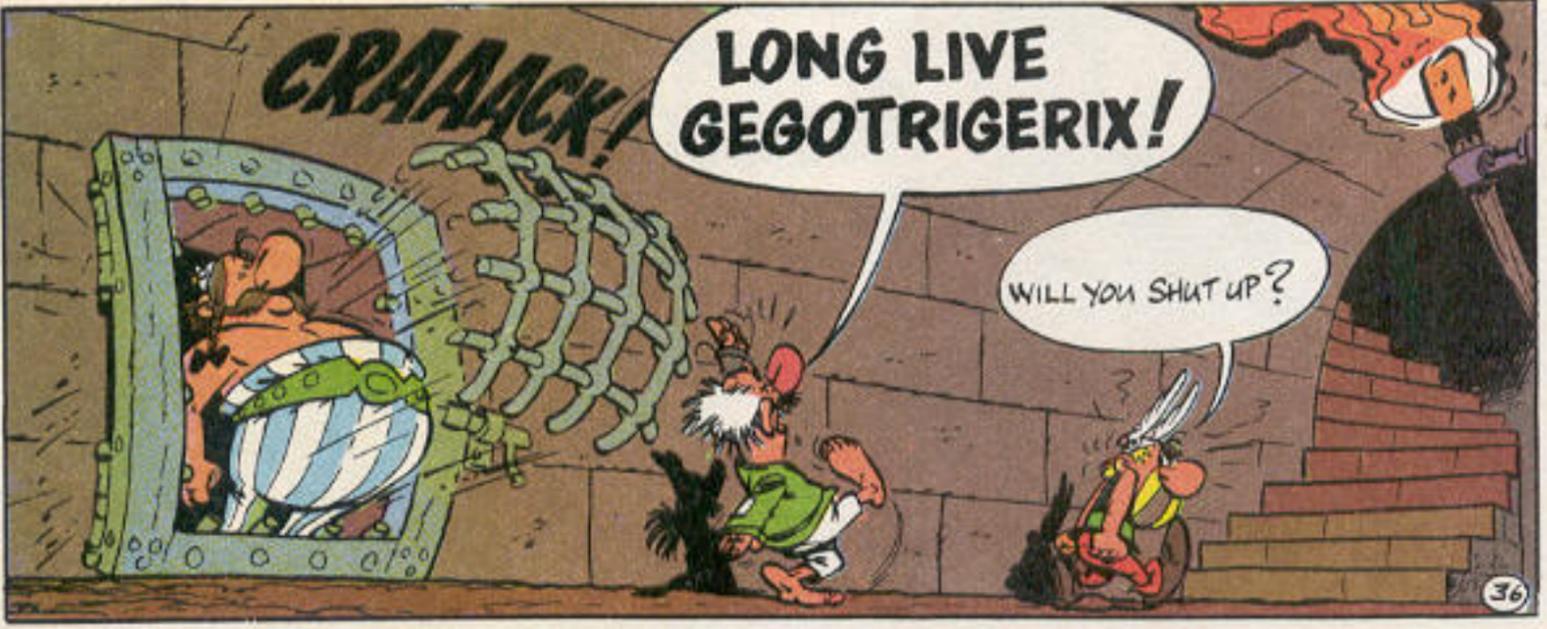
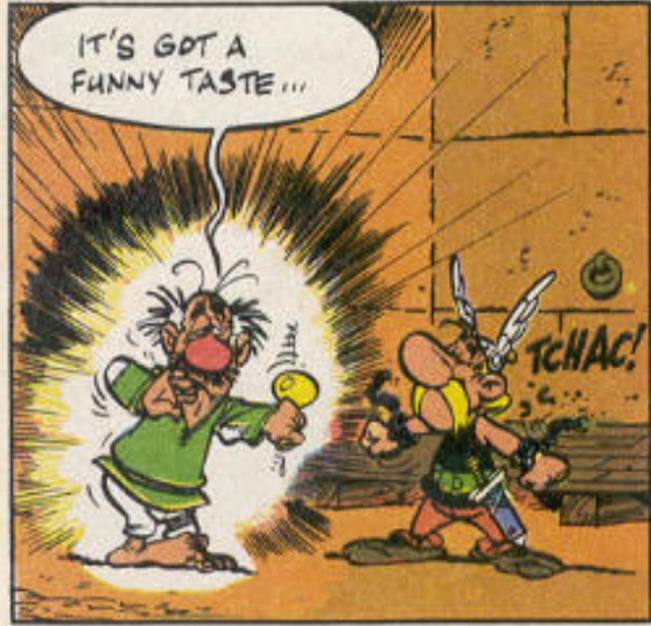
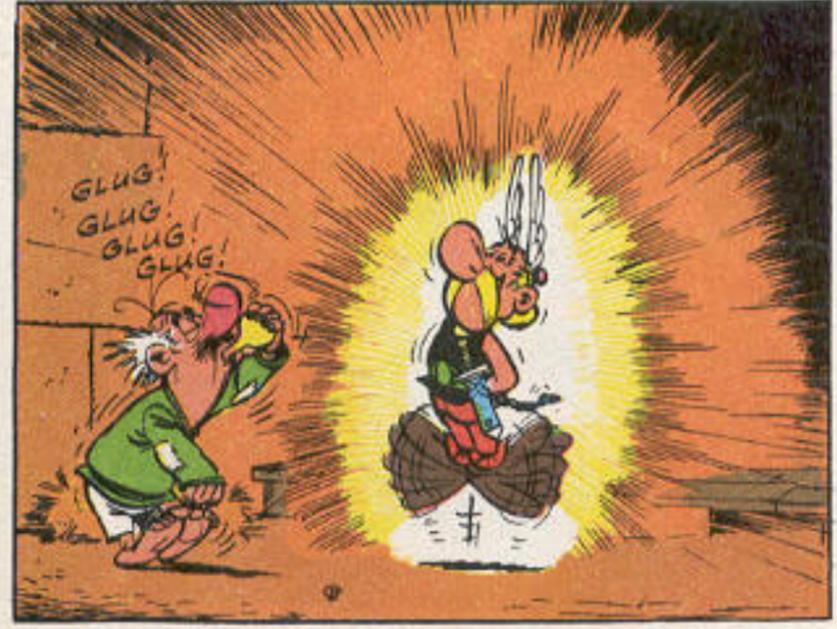


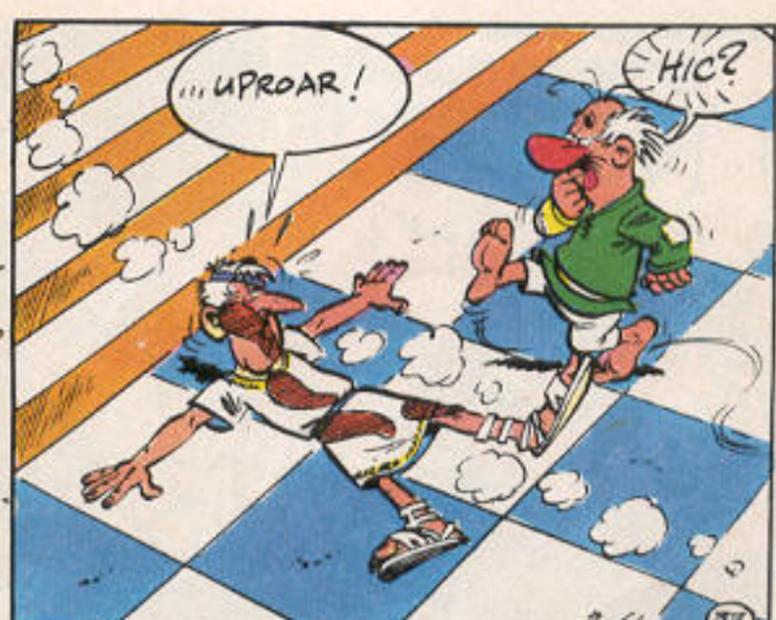
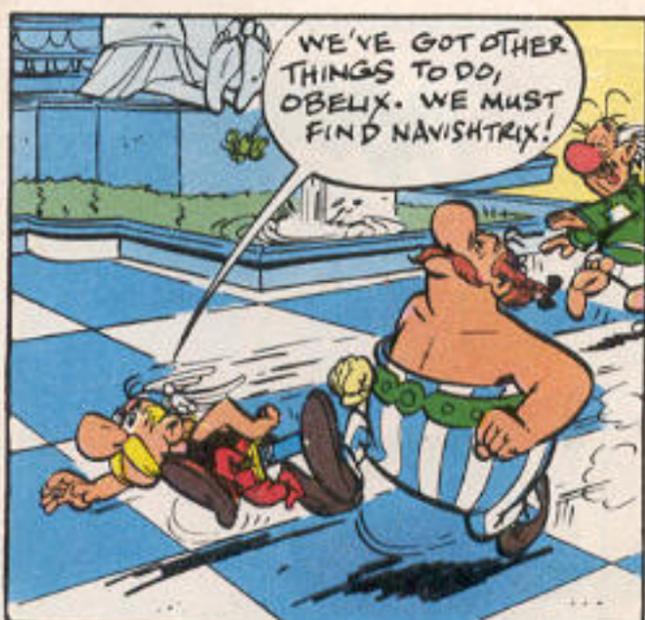


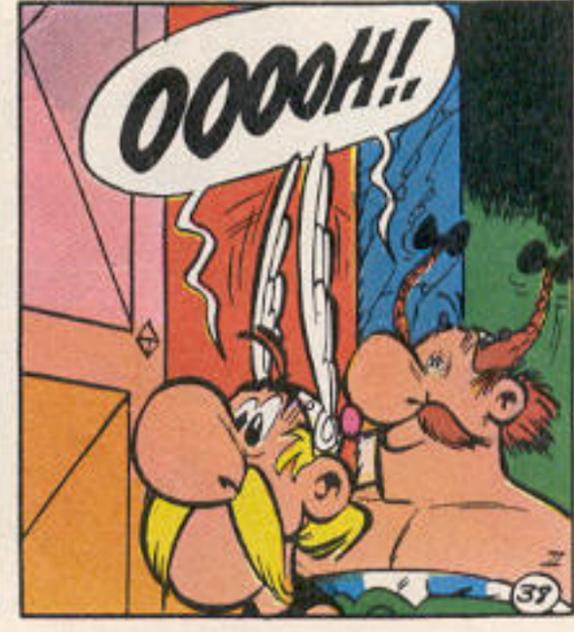
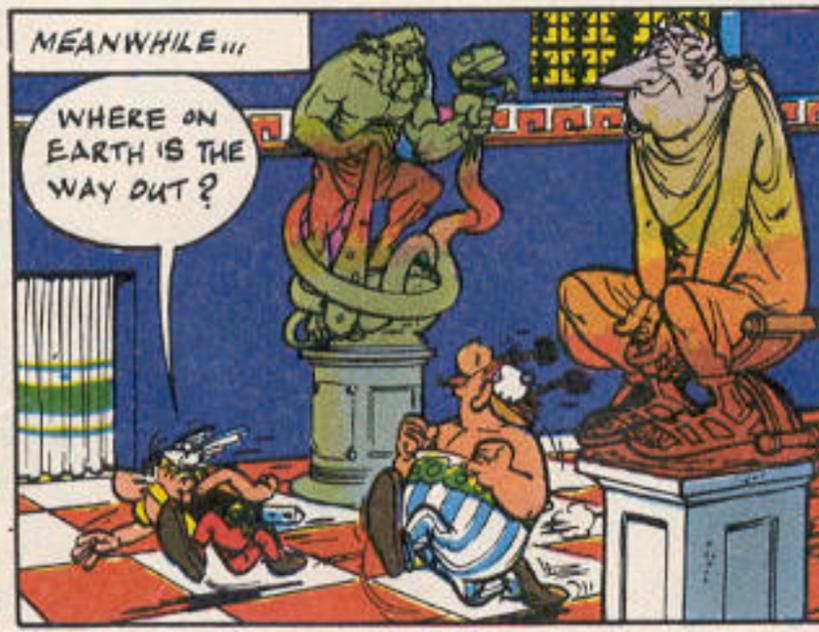
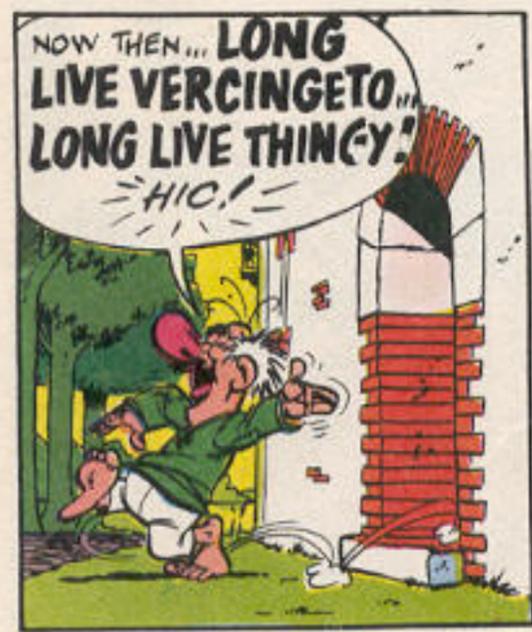
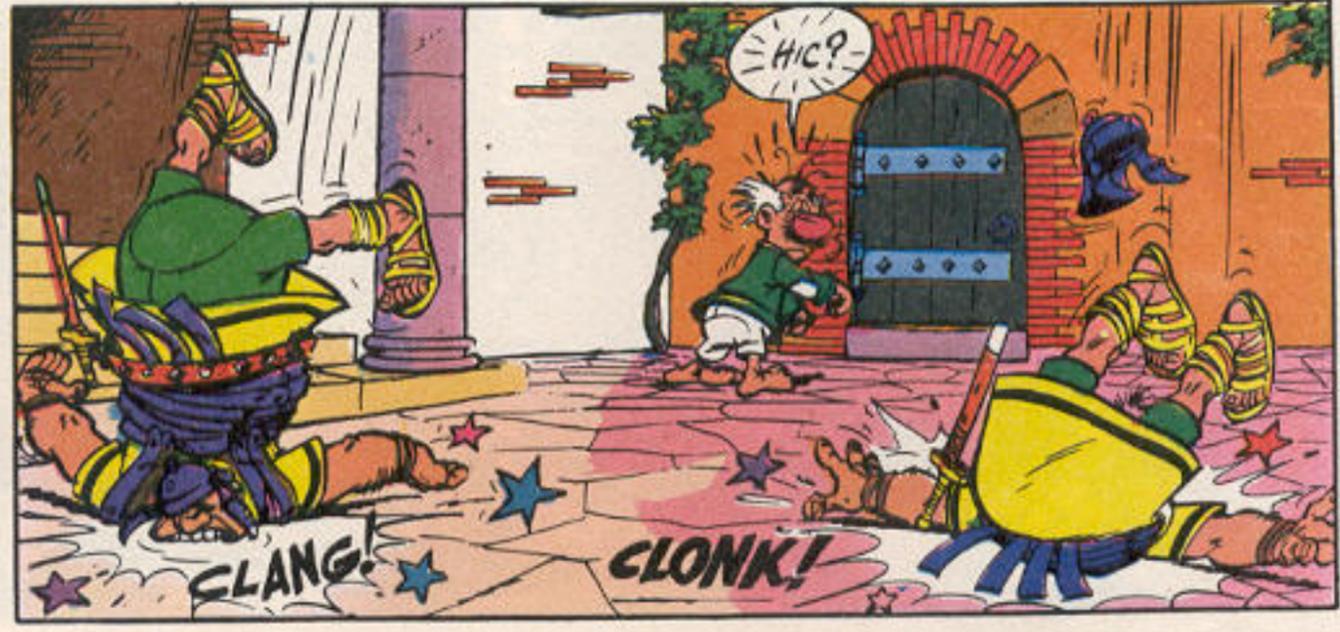


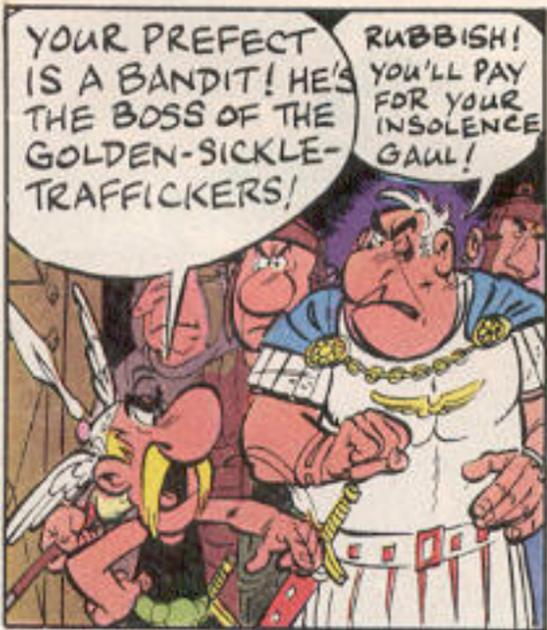
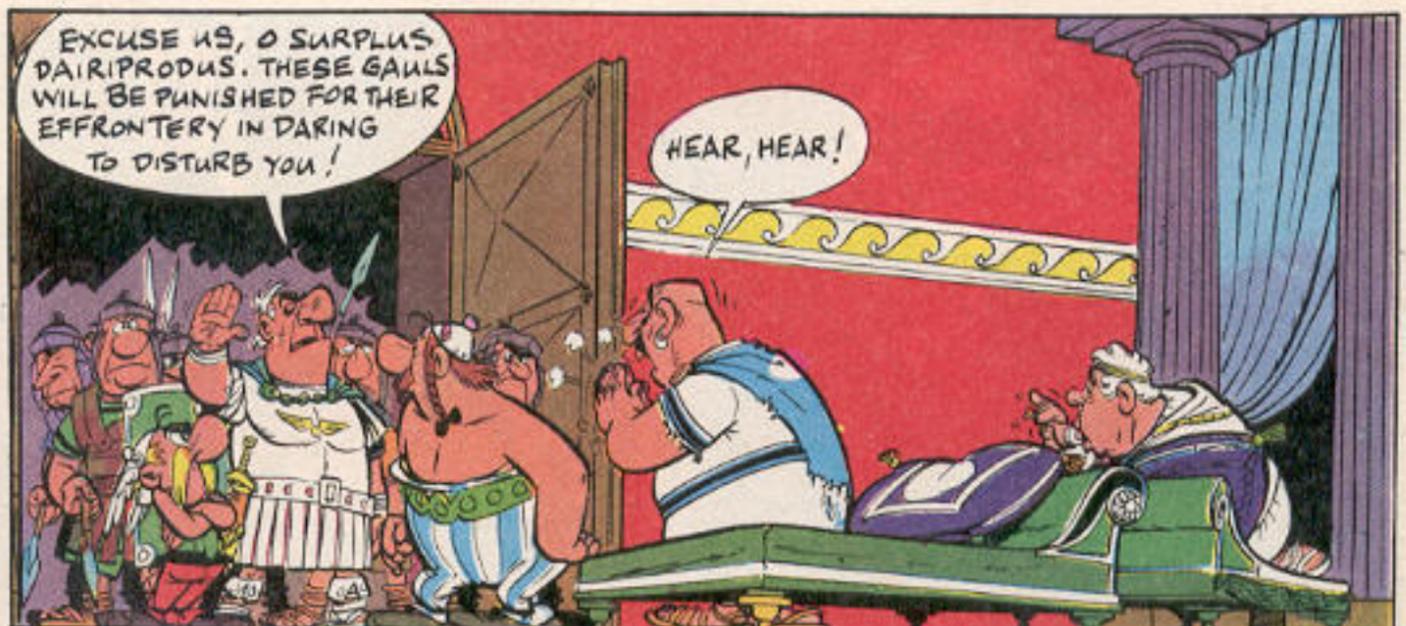
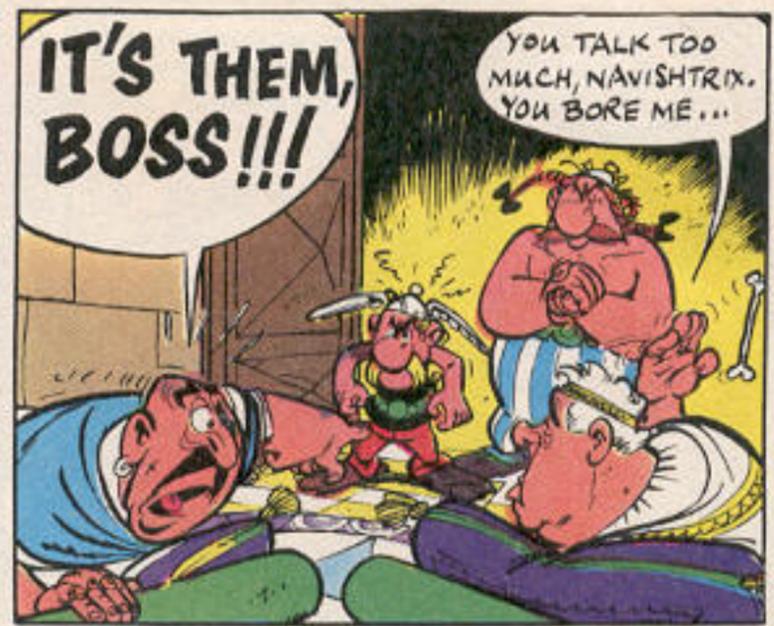
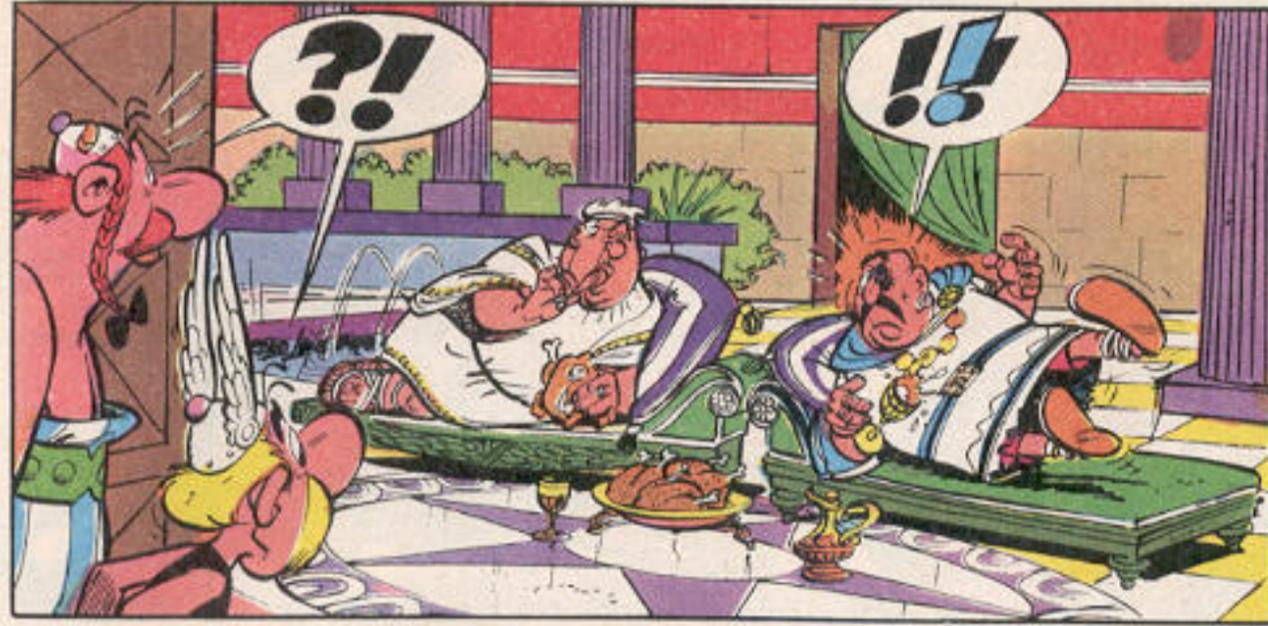


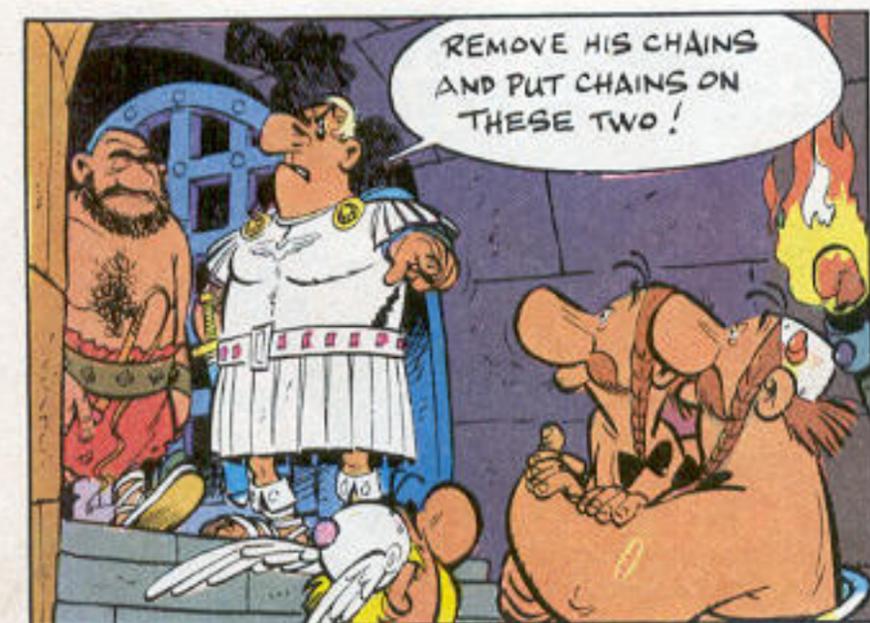
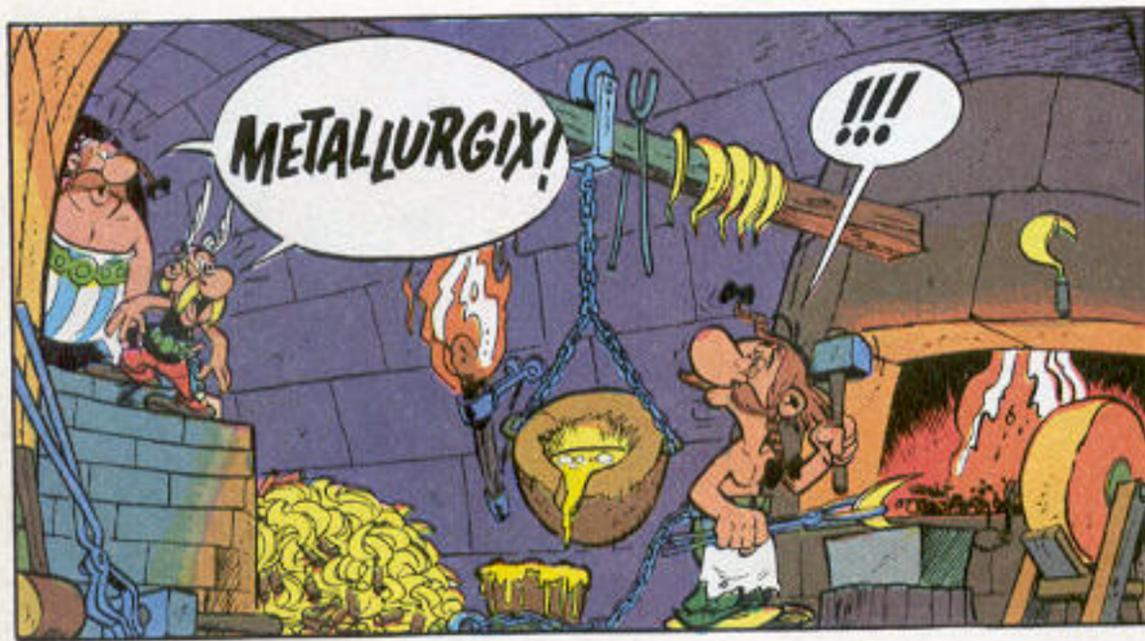


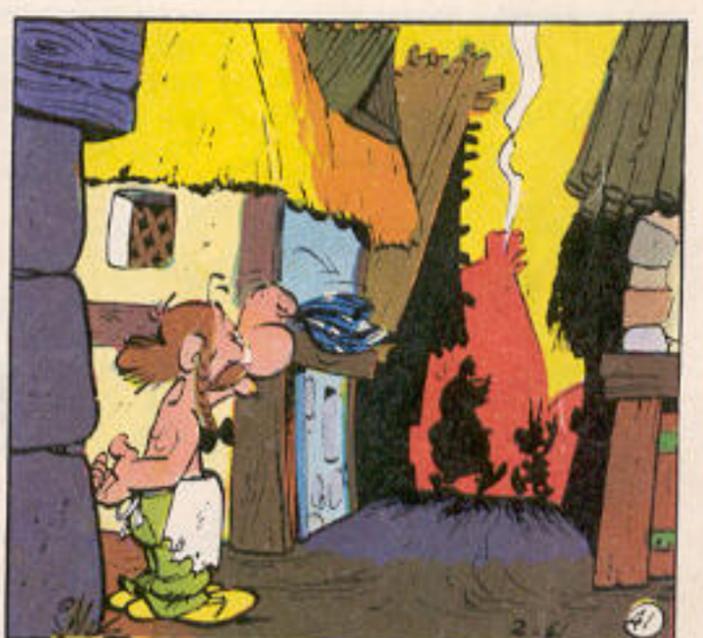
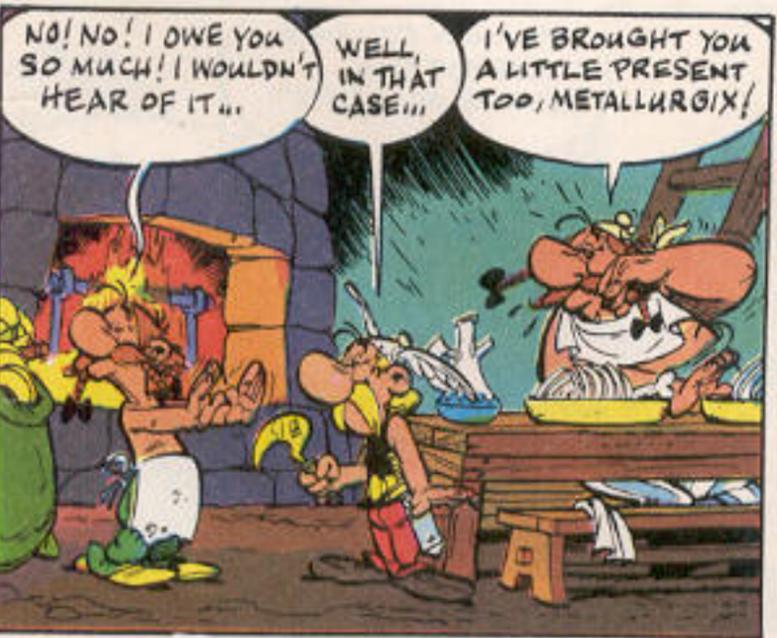
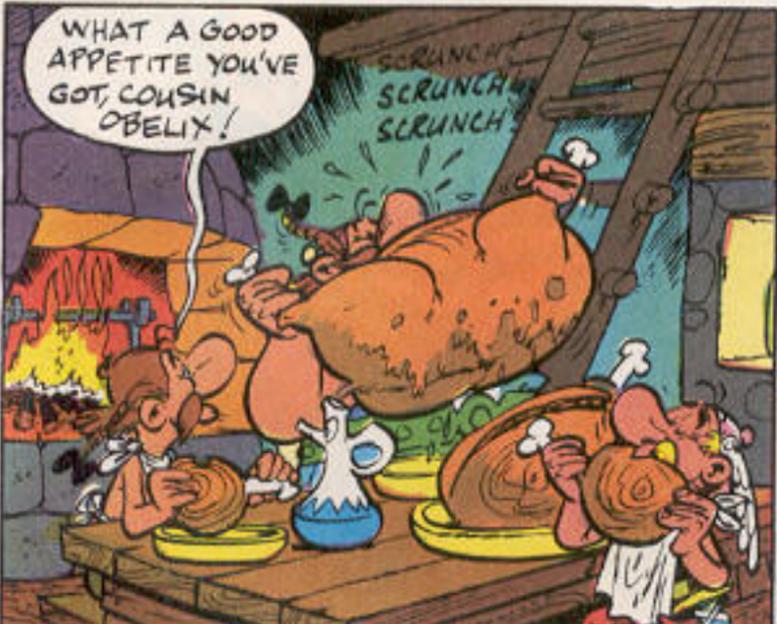
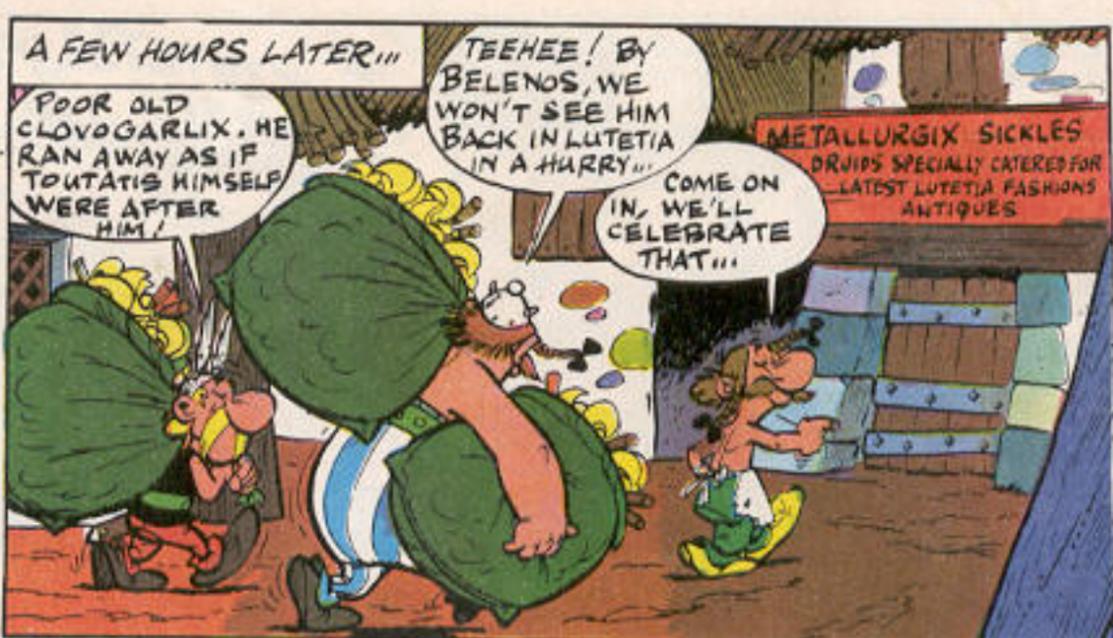
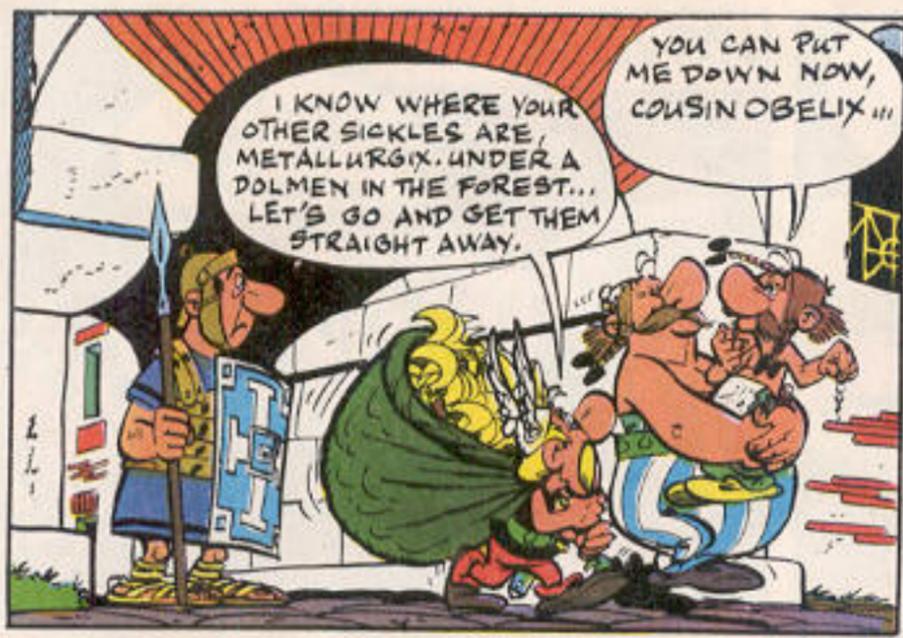












WITH THEIR GOLDEN SICKLE AT LAST, OUR TWO FRIENDS LEAVE LUTETIA FOR AN UNEVENTFUL JOURNEY...



I LOVE LUTETIA IN THE SPRINGTIME

APART FROM A FEW RASH BANDITS...



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

... A FEW FOOLHARDY BARBARIANS ...



Zat vos kein nice zink to do!

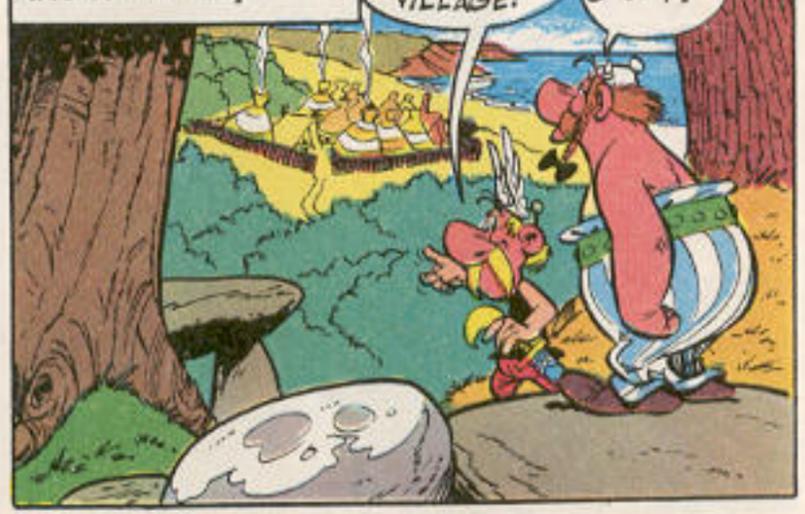
Nein, it nicht vos!

COME ALONG, OBELIX! DON'T PAWDLLE!

... AND SEVERAL CARELESS WILD BOAR ...



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



LOOK, OBELIX, THERE'S OUR VILLAGE!

GREAT!



COME ON, EVERYONE! ASTERIX AND OBELIX ARE BACK!

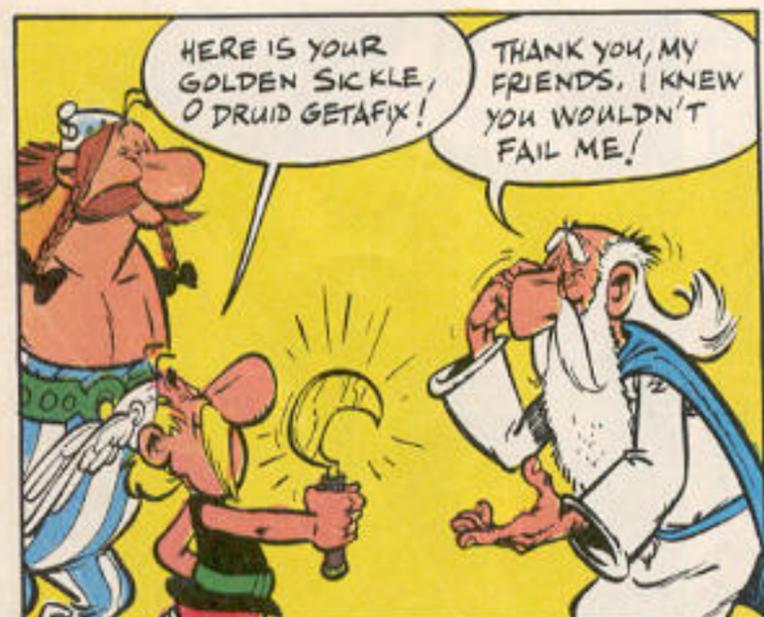
THEY'LL BE ABLE TO TELL US WHAT'S BEING WORN IN LUTETIA THIS SEASON!



WELCOME BACK, BRAVE WARRIORS!

I WILL NOW COMPOSE AN ODE FOR THIS GLORIOUS OCCASION!

JUST YOU TRY IT!



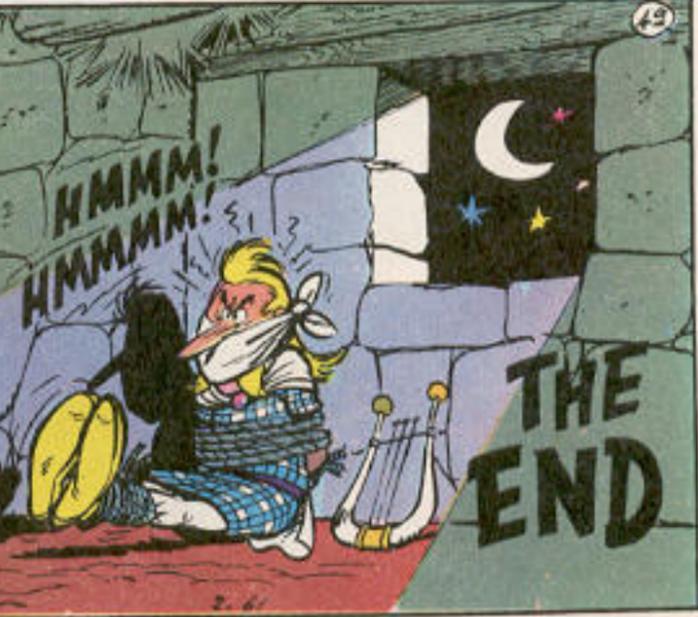
HERE IS YOUR GOLDEN SICKLE, O DRUID GETAFIX!

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

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



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



HMMM! HMMM!

THE END