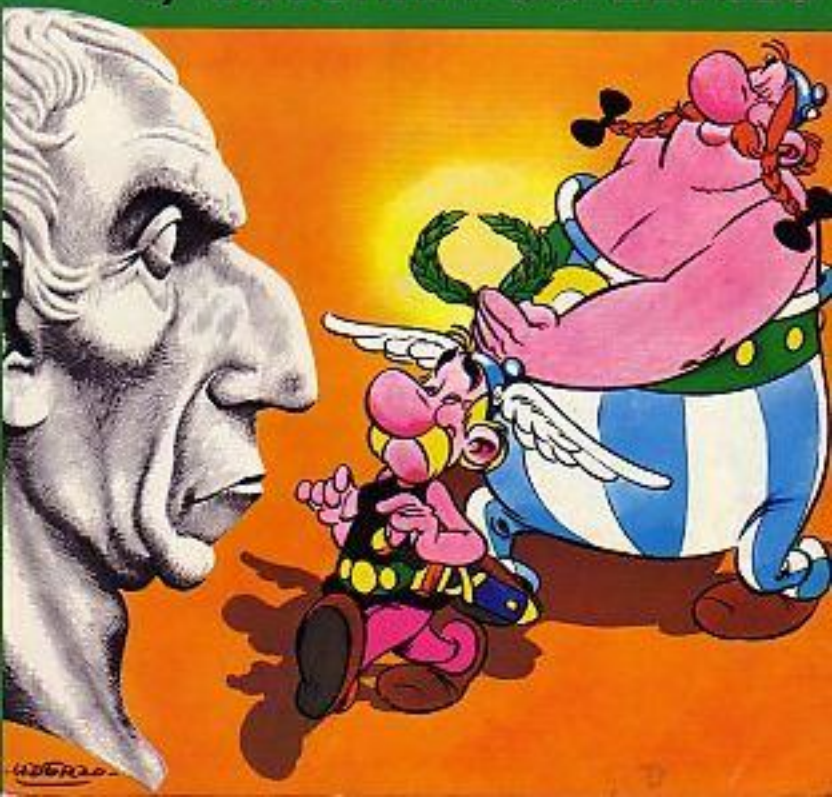




# Asterix and the laurel wreath

by GOSCINNY and UDERZO



AN ASTERIX  
ADVENTURE

# Asterix

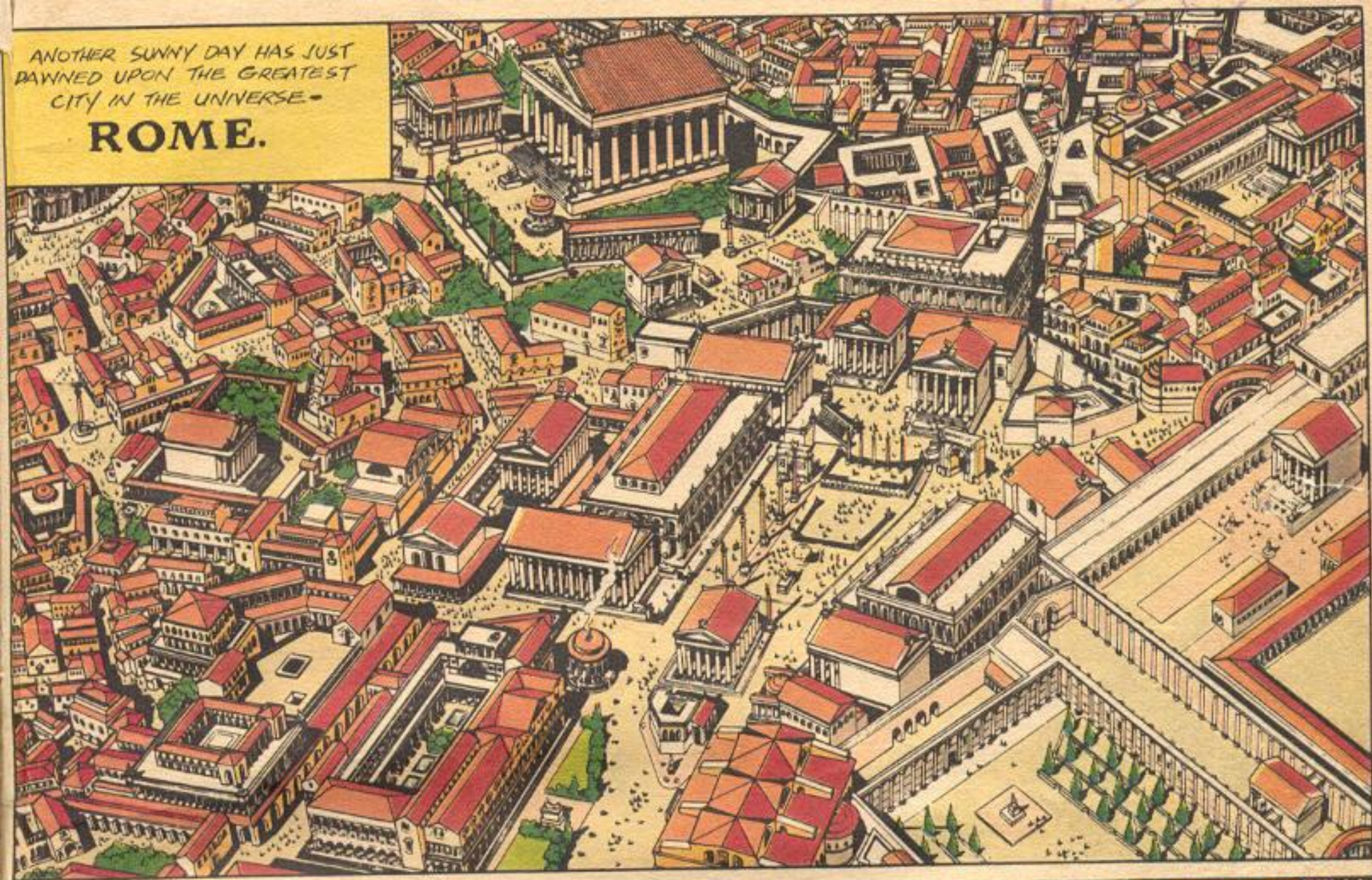
*and the  
Laurel Wreath*



DARGAUD  
PUBLISHERS SINCE 1974



ANOTHER SUNNY DAY HAS JUST  
DAWNED UPON THE GREATEST  
CITY IN THE UNIVERSE—  
**ROME.**



ALTHOUGH, BY CAESAR'S DECREE, TRAFFIC IS NOT ALLOWED ON THE  
STREETS IN THE DAYTIME, THE CITY IS INCREDIBLY NOISY, CROWDED  
WITH SHOPKEEPERS AND STREETSELLERS CRYING THEIR WARES...  
FRUCTUARIII, PEONARIII, OLITORES, PISCATOIRES, VINARIII,  
SILIGINARIII, PASTILLARIII...



EAT MORE  
FRUIT!

RIPE JUICY  
MELONS!

TRY MY  
VEGETABLES!  
NICE WHOLESOME  
NEG!

FISH!  
GOOD FRESH  
FISH!

CAKES!

SWEETS!

THE PASSERS-BY ARE RESET BY  
BEGGARS AND FLAG SELLERS...



HAVE PITY ON A  
POOR GLADIATOR  
IN REDUCED  
CIRCUMSTANCES!

DON'T YOU WANT TO  
SUPPORT A GOOD  
CAUSE THEN?

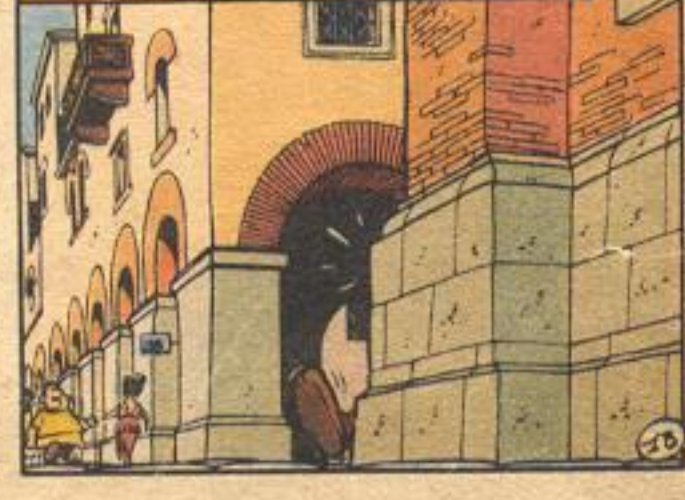
TOURISTS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD, THRACIANS,  
GOTHS, BRITONS, EGYPTIANS, SKAMBRES, ETHIOPIANS,  
NUMIDIANS, ALL ADD TO THE LOCAL COLOUR...



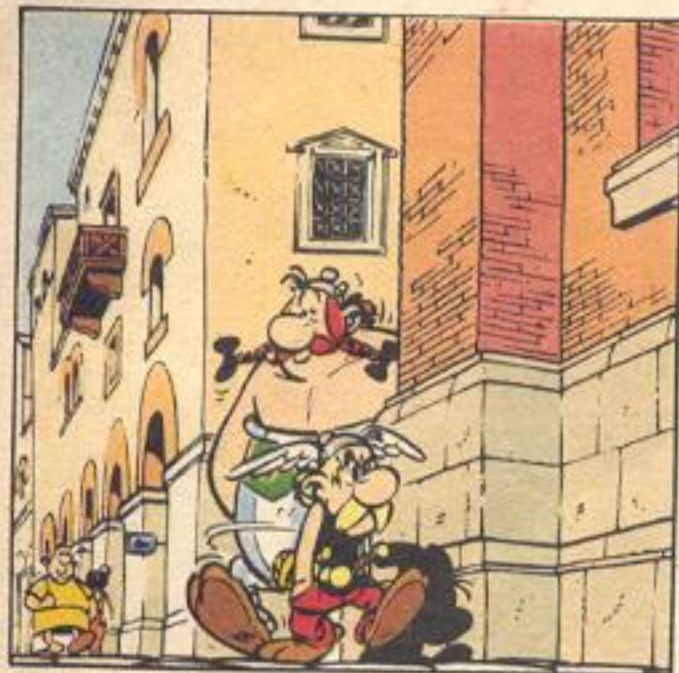
AND HERE WE HAVE THE CIRCUS MAXIMUS  
AND HERE WE HAVE THE CIRCUS MAXIMUS...

and here we have the Circus  
Maximus

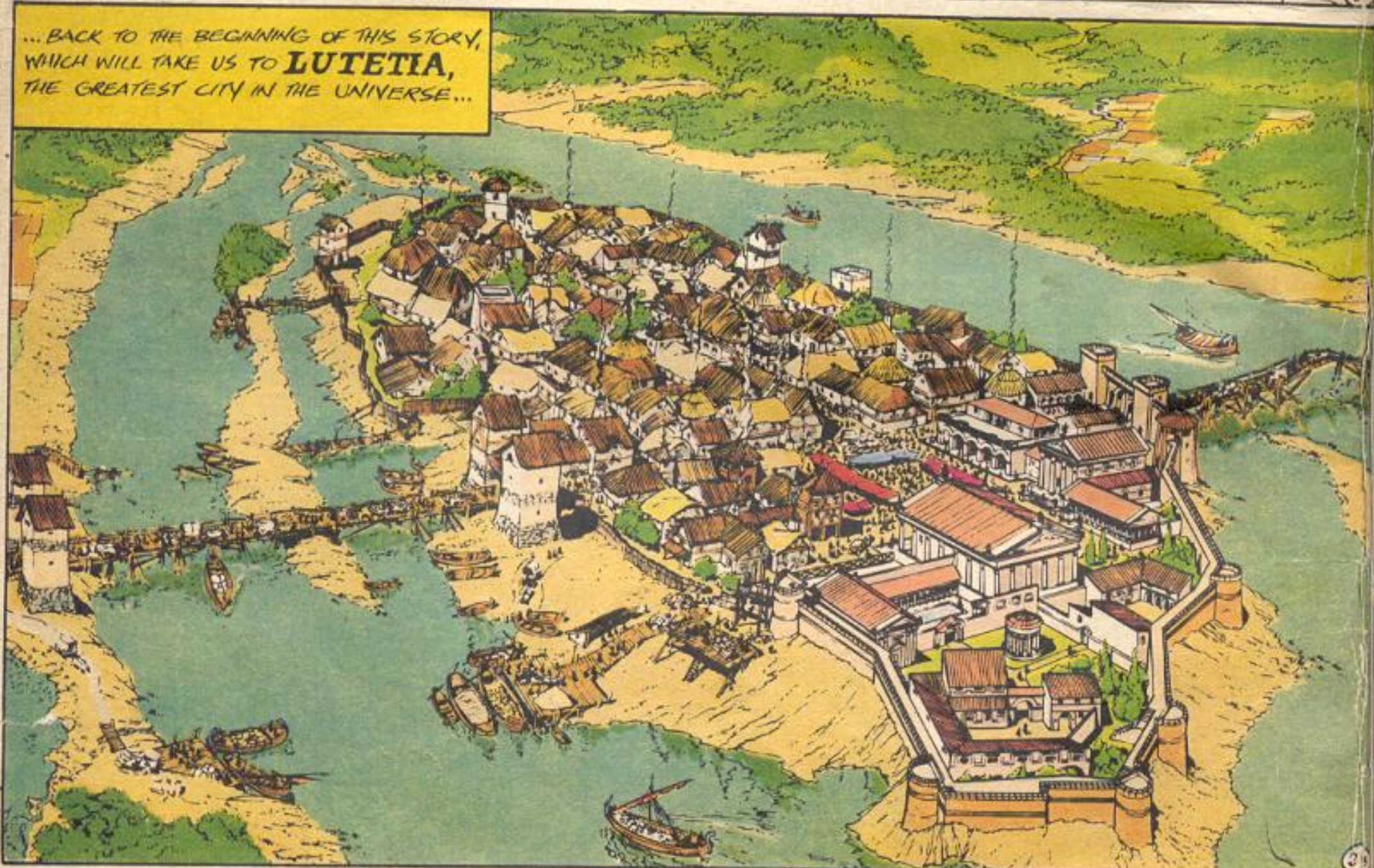
IN FACT, EVERYTHING LEADS US TO  
BELIEVE THAT WE MAY SEE EVEN  
STRANGER SIGHTS AROUND  
THE NEXT CORNER...







... BACK TO THE BEGINNING OF THIS STORY, WHICH WILL TAKE US TO **LUTETIA**, THE GREATEST CITY IN THE UNIVERSE...









**LITTLE PEDIMENTA!**



HOMEOPATHIKINS!

I'VE BROUGHT YOU ONE OF OUR SEASIDE SHELLS... VITAL STATISTIX WANTED TO BRING YOU A MENHIR, THE SAME AS USUAL.

BUT MY DEAR CHAP, WHERE AM I GOING TO PUT THESE MENHIRS OF YOURS?

YOU REALLY WANT ME TO TELL YOU?

**VITALST TISTIX!**

**VITALSTA  
TISTIX!**

OH, HOW LOVELY IT IS HERE!

YES, I'VE REDECORATED THE WHOLE PLACE. I WAS GETTING TIRED OF COUNTRY STUFF... TAPIOCA, LET'S HAVE A DRINK.

YES, I'VE REDECORATED THE WHOLE PLACE. I WAS GETTING TIRED OF COUNTRY STUFF... TAPIOCA, LET'S HAVE A DRINK.

TRY SOME OF THE S.S.B.C., FROM OUR OWN VINEYARD. ITS A MODEST, UNPRETENTIOUS LITTLE WINE, BUT I HOPE YOU LIKE IT.

HOW'S BUSINESS, HOMEOPATHIX? STILL GOOD?

EXCELLENT! I'M ABOUT TO OPEN BRANCHES AT LUGDUNUM AND MASSILIA...

EXCELLENT! I'M ABOUT TO OPEN BRANCHES AT LUGDUNUM AND MASSILIA...

HOW FASCINATING! AND WILL YOU BE DOING MUCH TRAVELING?

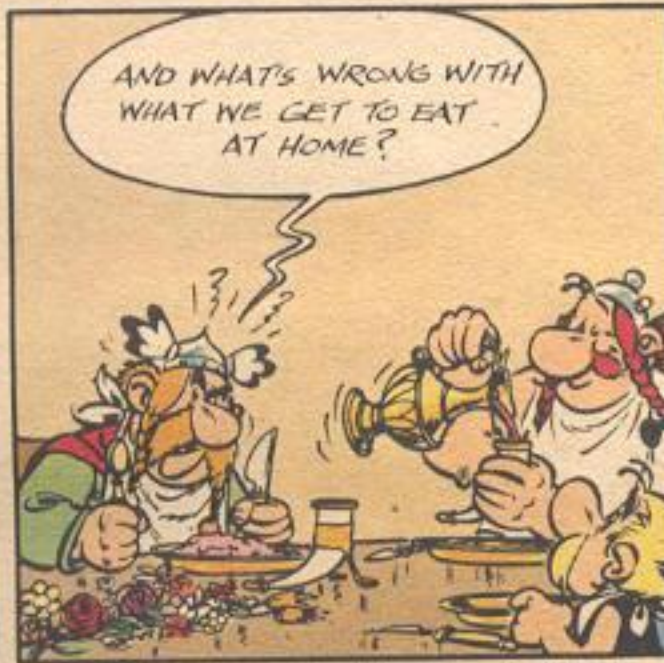
NOT IF I CAN HELP IT! WHEN A MAN IS TIRED OF LUTETIA, HE IS TIRED OF LIFE. THE REST OF GAUL IS ONLY FIT FOR BOARS



NOT IF I CAN HELP IT!  
WHEN A MAN IS TIRED OF  
LUTETIA, HE IS TIRED OF  
LIFE. THE REST OF GAUL  
IS ONLY FIT FOR BOARS

五







HONOUR AND GLORY IS WORTH  
A LOT MORE THAN FOW'S COOF..  
I MEAN HOW'S MOOF..  
I MEAN ALL THIS ROT!



YOU COME TO MY VILLAGE,  
YOU AND SEMOLINA... TAPIOCA!  
I'LL GIVE YOU A MEAL. AND WHAT  
A MEAL! ONE YOUR MONEY  
COULD NEVER BUY! HIC!



AND WHAT EXACTLY  
WILL THIS GOURMET  
MEAL CONSIST  
OF?

AHA! A STEW... OUT-OF-THIS-  
WORLD... SEASONED WITH...



**CAESONED WITH  
CAESAR'S  
LAUREL WREATH!  
HIC!**



TAKE NO NOTICE, HE'S  
HAD A DROP TOO MUCH.

THAT'S ALL RIGHT,  
IMPEDIMENTA. HE'S  
VERY AMUSING.



AMUSING, EH? HIC! ALL RIGHT  
THEN, YOU WAIT AND SEE!  
I'M SENDING MY MEN TO ROME  
TO BRING ME CAESAR'S LAUREL  
WREATH, TO SEASON THE STEW  
I SHALL GIVE YOU WHEN YOU  
VISIT MY VILLAGE!



**ZIGACKLY!  
WHATSISNAME ISH  
FERPECTLY RIGHT!  
HIC!**



**LET GO OF ME, ASTERIX!  
WE'RE GOING TO ROME TO  
BRING BACK CHAESHAR'S  
LAUREL WREATH!  
ZIGACTLY!**



**COME TO  
MY ARMS,  
OBELIX!**

HOMEOPATH-  
IKINS!

**NO! SINCE  
THIS BIGHEADED  
WARRIOR OF  
YOURS IS SO  
CLEVER, I'LL  
ACCEPT HIS  
INVITATION!**



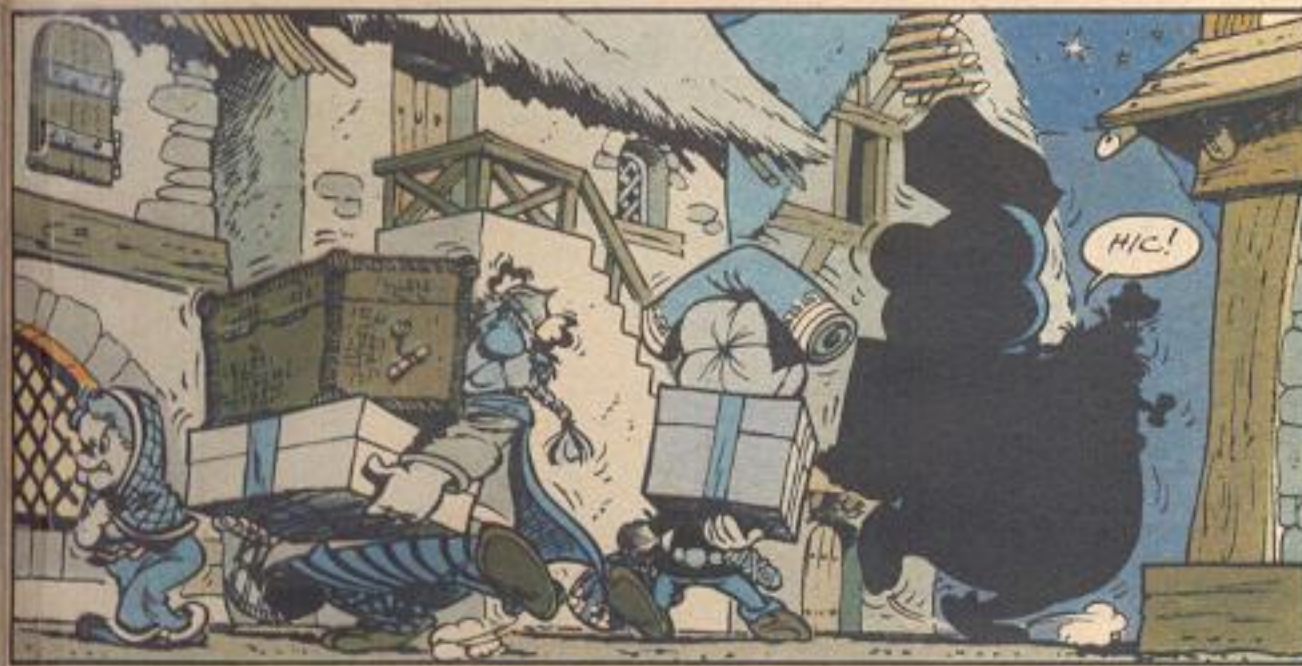
**BUT I HAVE HIS WORD OF HONOUR  
THAT IT REALLY WILL BE CAESAR'S  
LAUREL WREATH IN THE STEW, DON'T I**



**THASH  
FERPECTLY RIGHT!**

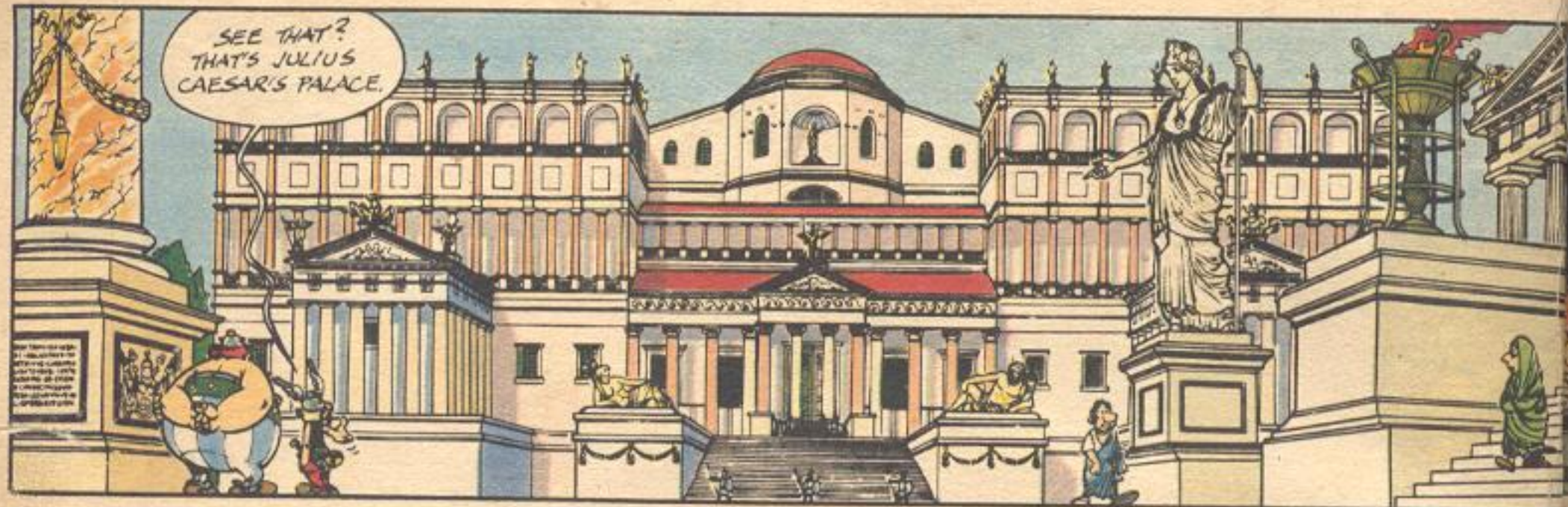
IMPEDIMENTA,  
DARLING... D-DID  
YOU SEE ANYTHING  
NICE IN LUTETIA?







SEE THAT?  
THAT'S JULIUS  
CAESAR'S PALACE.

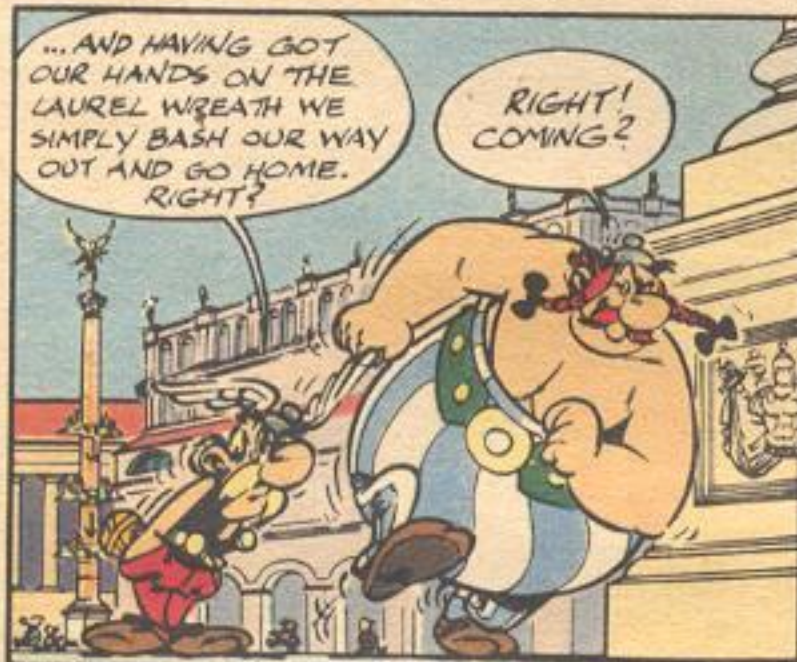


SO WE JUST MASSACRE THE  
GUARD, AND ONCE INSIDE  
THE PALACE WE ASK OUR  
WAY TO CAESAR'S LAUREL  
WREATH, WHICH WE NEED  
TO SEASON A STEW...

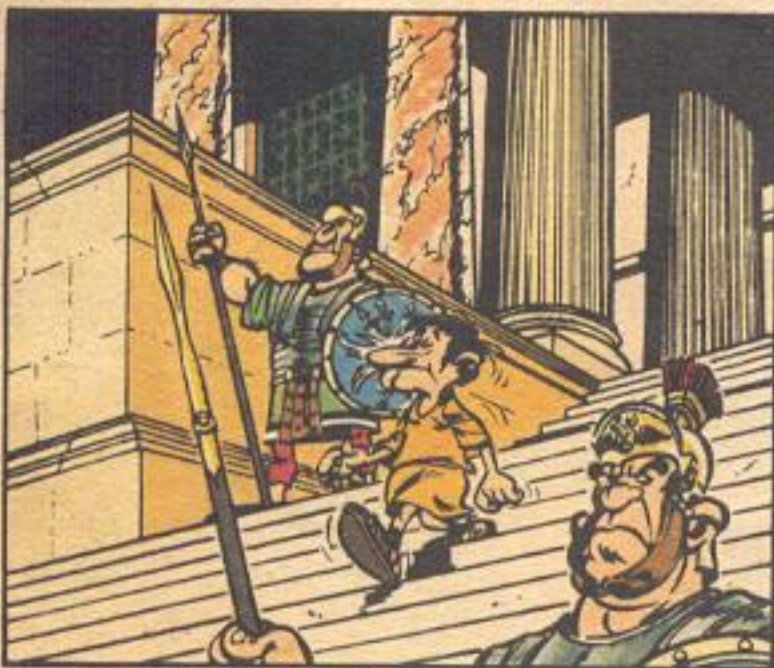


...AND HAVING GOT  
OUR HANDS ON THE  
LAUREL WREATH WE  
SIMPLY BASH OUR WAY  
OUT AND GO HOME.  
RIGHT?

RIGHT!  
COMING?



OBELIX, THOSE LEGIONARIES  
IN CAESAR'S PALACE ARE A  
TOUGHER PROPOSITION THAN THE  
SORT WE GET AT HOME... AND  
THE MAGIC POTION DOESN'T  
MAKE US INVULNERABLE.  
WE MUST THINK OF  
SOMETHING  
ELSE.

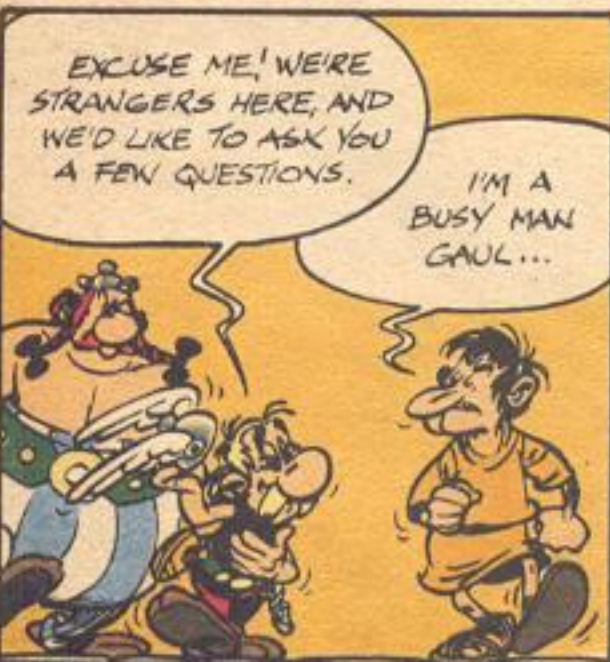


THAT MAN JUST  
CAME OUT OF THE  
PALACE. HE MIGHT  
BE ABLE TO TELL US  
HOW TO GET IN. LET'S  
FOLLOW HIM.

BUT... HE MAY  
KNOW THE WAY  
OUT, BUT THAT  
DOESN'T MEAN  
SAY HE KNOWS  
THE WAY IN, AND

EXCUSE ME! WE'RE  
STRANGERS HERE, AND  
WE'D LIKE TO ASK YOU  
A FEW QUESTIONS.

I'M A  
BUSY MAN  
GAUL...



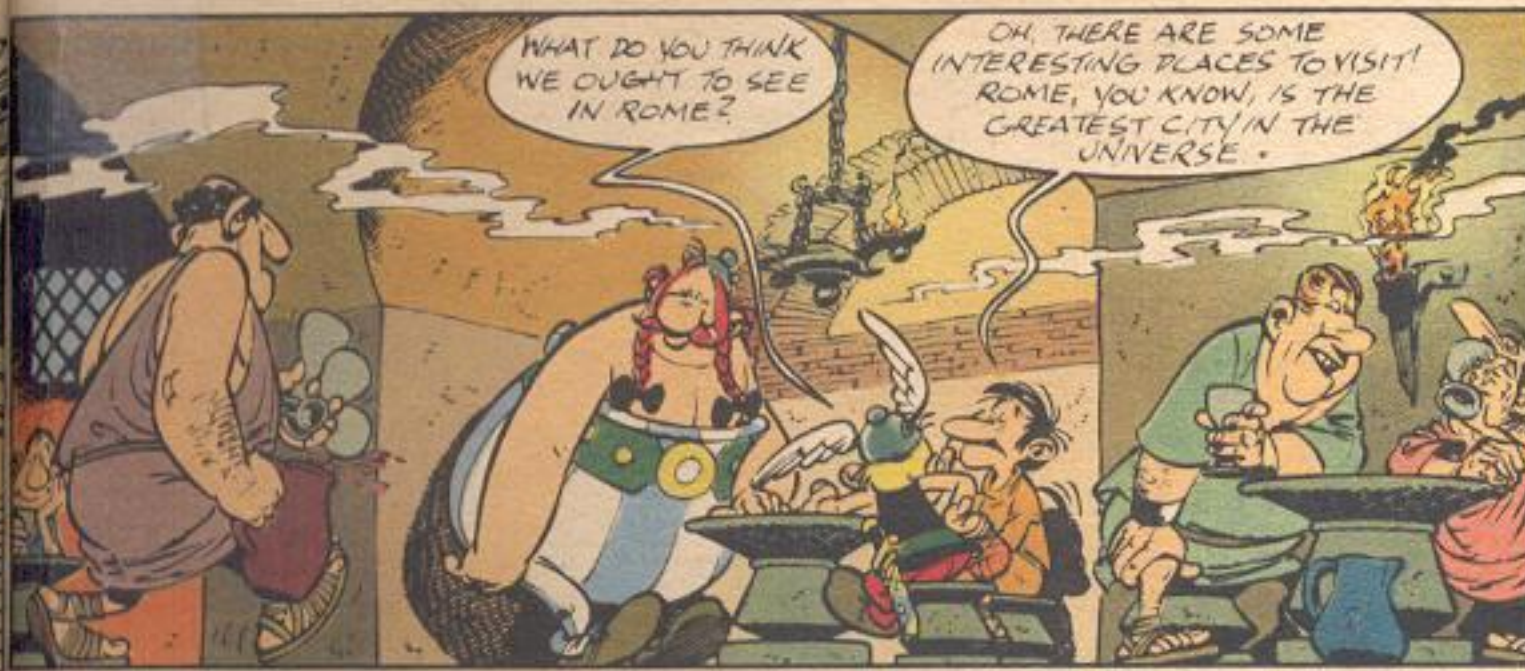
HOW ABOUT  
GOING IN HERE FOR  
A LITTLE DRINK?

I DON'T REALLY  
KNOW IF  
I CAN...

JUST AS I THOUGHT! HE  
CAN GET OUT OF PLACES  
RIGHT, BUT HE'S NOT  
GOOD AT GETTING IN







WHAT DO YOU THINK WE OUGHT TO SEE IN ROME?

OH, THERE ARE SOME INTERESTING PLACES TO VISIT! ROME, YOU KNOW, IS THE GREATEST CITY IN THE UNIVERSE.



CAESAR'S PALACE, FOR INSTANCE... COULD WE SEE OVER CAESAR'S PALACE?



DEAR ME, NO! QUITE OUT OF THE QUESTION!

BUT YOU JUST CAME OUT OF...



OH, THAT'S DIFFERENT! I AM ONE OF CAESAR'S SLAVES. MY NAME IS KUMAKROS. I WORK IN THE PALACE KITCHENS.



YOU KNOW ALL ABOUT THE STEWS THEN!

OBELIX! DRINK UP AND SHUT UP!

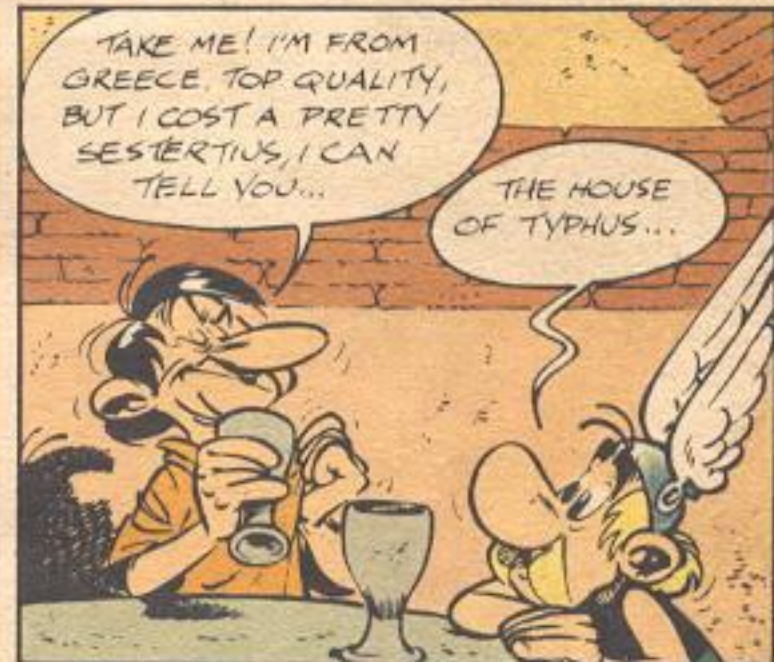


STEWES?

NEVER MIND HIM... HOW DOES ONE RISE TO BE CAESAR'S SLAVE?



WELL, CAESAR USUALLY GETS HIS SLAVES FROM THE HOUSE OF TYPHUS. TYPHUS IS A LUXURY-SLAVE MERCHANT HE SELLS NOTHING BUT THE BEST... IMPORTS ONLY...



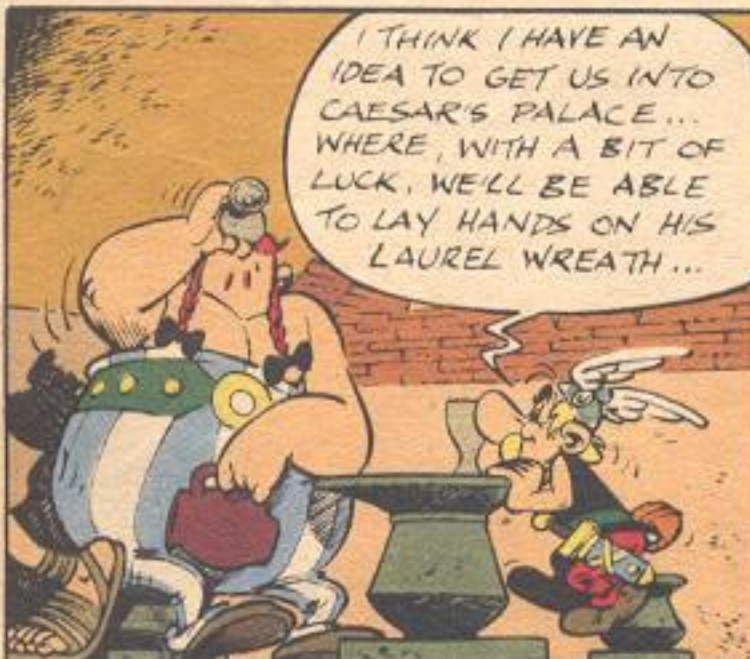
TAKE ME! I'M FROM GREECE. TOP QUALITY, BUT I COST A PRETTY SESTERTIUS, I CAN TELL YOU...

THE HOUSE OF TYPHUS...



WELL, I WOULDN'T LIKE YOU TO THINK YOU WERE BORING ME, BUT I REALLY DO HAVE TO WORK LIKE A SLAVE! I HOPE YOU HAVE A NICE TIME IN ROME, GAULS, AYE.

GOODBYE.



I THINK I HAVE AN IDEA TO GET US INTO CAESAR'S PALACE... WHERE, WITH A BIT OF LUCK, WE'LL BE ABLE TO LAY HANDS ON HIS LAUREL WREATH...



**ZIGACKLY!**

Pog!

98



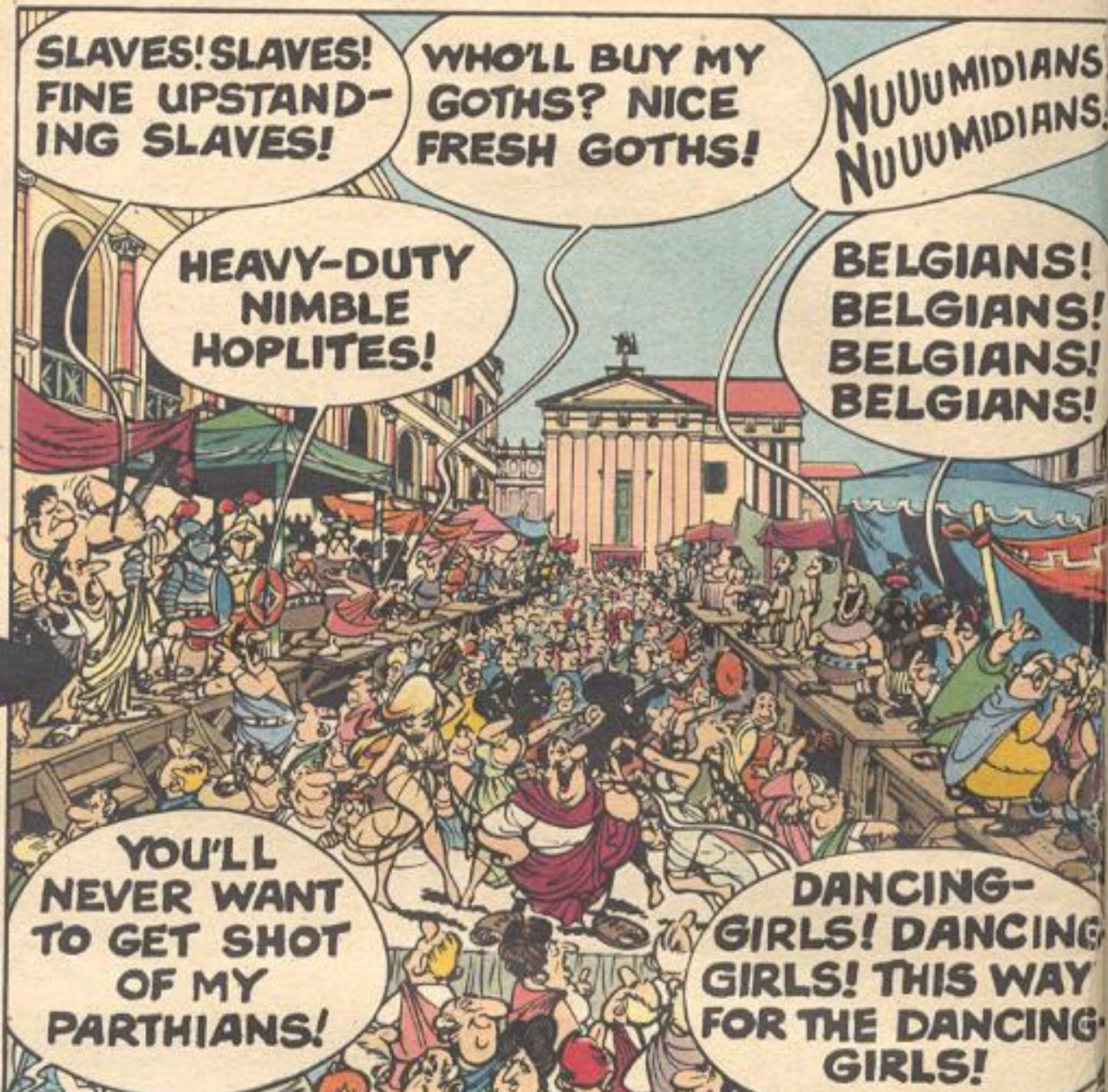


LOOK! THAT MAN SHOULD BE ABLE TO DIRECT US.

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK SO?



THE SLAVE MARKET? I'VE JUST LEFT IT. IT'S THAT WAY.



SLAVES! SLAVES! FINE UPSTANDING SLAVES!

WHO'LL BUY MY GOTHs? NICE FRESH GOTHs!

NUUUMIDIANS! NUUUMIDIANS!

HEAVY-DUTY NIMBLE HOPLITES!

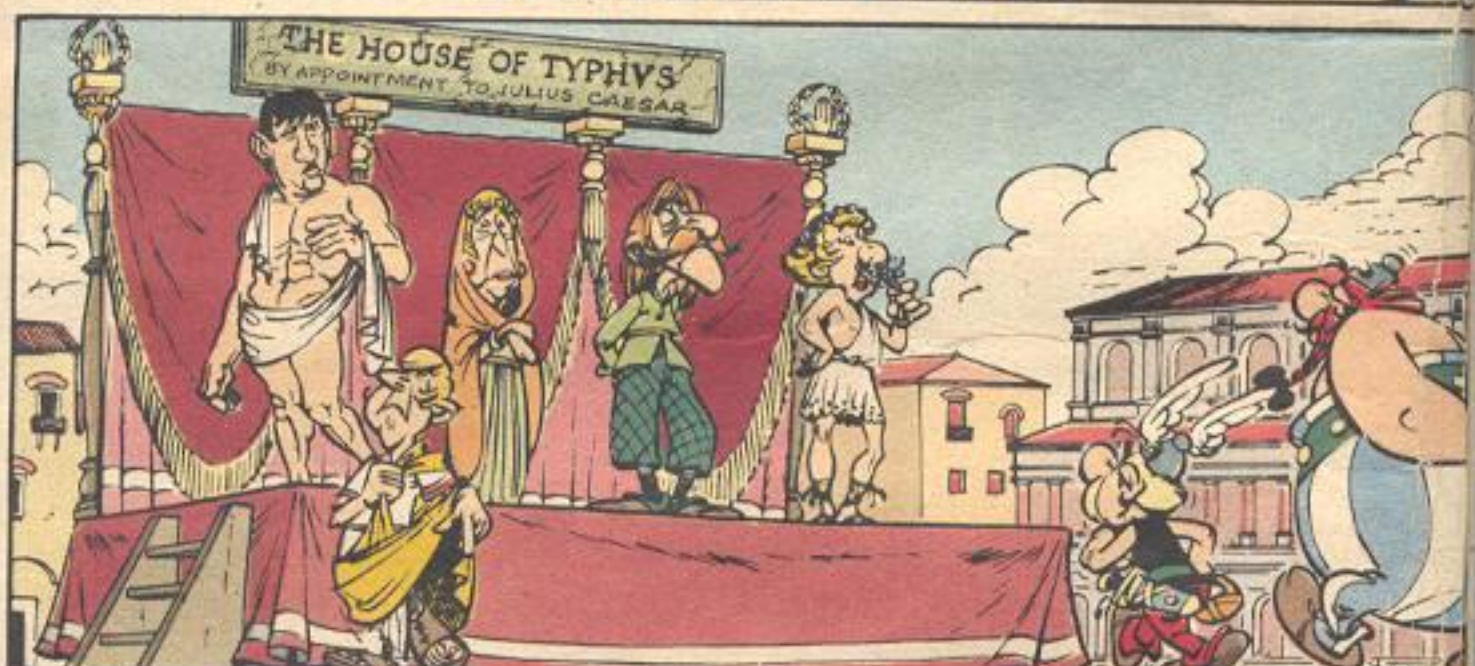
BELGIANS! BELGIANS! BELGIANS! BELGIANS!

YOU'LL NEVER WANT TO GET SHOT OF MY PARTHIANS!

DANCING-GIRLS! DANCING-GIRLS! THIS WAY FOR THE DANCING-GIRLS!



AH! THIS MUST BE IT.



THE HOUSE OF TYPHVS  
BY APPOINTMENT TO JULIUS CAESAR



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN OUR WARES? WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE THE CATALOGUE?

ARE YOU TYPHVS?

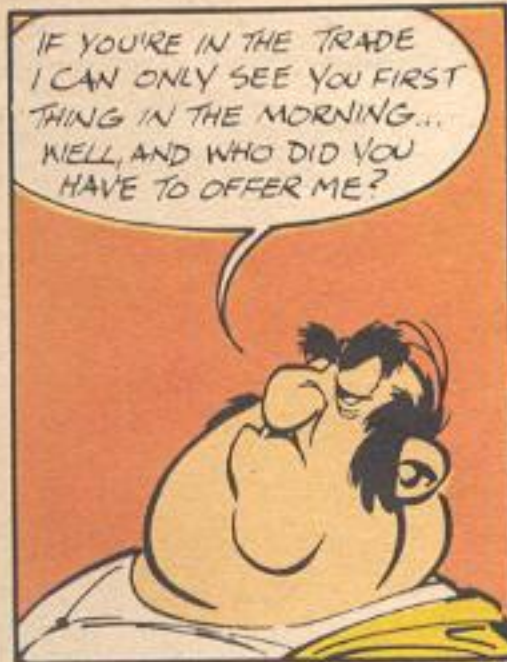


NO, THAT'S ME.



WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU? WE'VE JUST HAD A DELIVERY OF REALLY TOP QUALITY BRITONS...









COME ON! UP ON THE PLATFORM! LET'S SEE A BIT OF CLASS! WE'RE NOT FLOGGING ANY CHEAP MASS-PRODUCED SLAVES HERE, YOU KNOW!



HMPH... I CAN SMELL THE FUMES OF WINE!

WHERE?  
WHERE?

PAY NO ATTENTION, MY DEAR. IT MUST BE REMNANT DAY... ONLY AN ADVERTISING GIMMICK.



JUNK?  
WHO'S JUNK?

SHUT UP,  
OBELIX!

YOU ARE, YOU  
SECOND-HAND  
PIECE OF  
GOODS!

FLAWED,  
AT THAT.



YOU'LL BE  
FLOORED TOO IF  
YOU'RE NOT  
CAREFUL!

SHUT UP, YOU  
FREE GIFT!



WHERE DO YOU  
THINK YOU ARE?  
DON'T DISTURB  
THE DISPLAY!

YOU SAW THAT? MY  
FRIEND HERE IS STRONG  
TOO!



I SAY, SO HE IS, OLD BOY!  
JOLLY GOOD SHOW!

YOU SHUT UP,  
BRITON, OR I'LL  
SELL YOU AT A  
DISCOUNT!

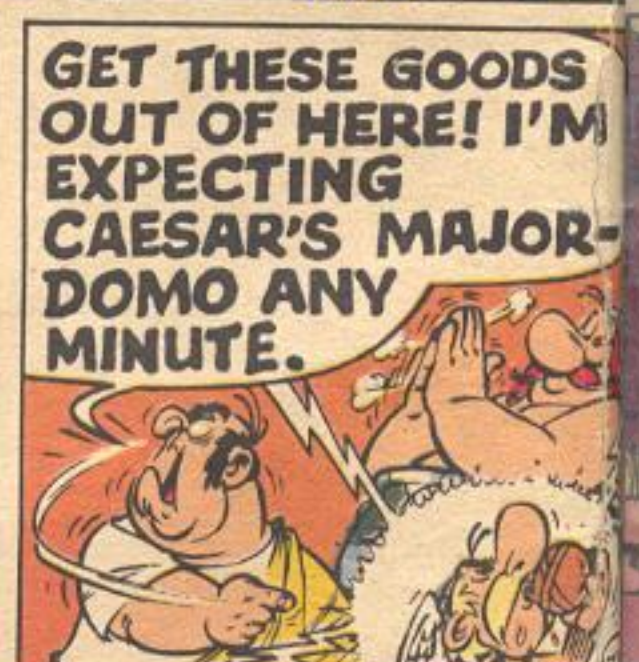


AND YOU GET  
OUT, GAULS!



YOU MAY FIND A DEPARTMENT STORE  
OR SUPERMARKET TO TAKE YOU.  
YOU'RE FREE!

OH NO, WE'RE NOT!  
AND IF NECESSARY  
WE'LL FIGHT TO LOSE  
OUR FREEDOM!



GET THESE GOODS  
OUT OF HERE! I'M  
EXPECTING  
CAESAR'S MAJOR-  
DOMO ANY  
MINUTE.





SUCH GOWNS-ON ARE MOST DEGRADING! I PROTEST, IN THE NAME OF THE ENTIRE STOCK!

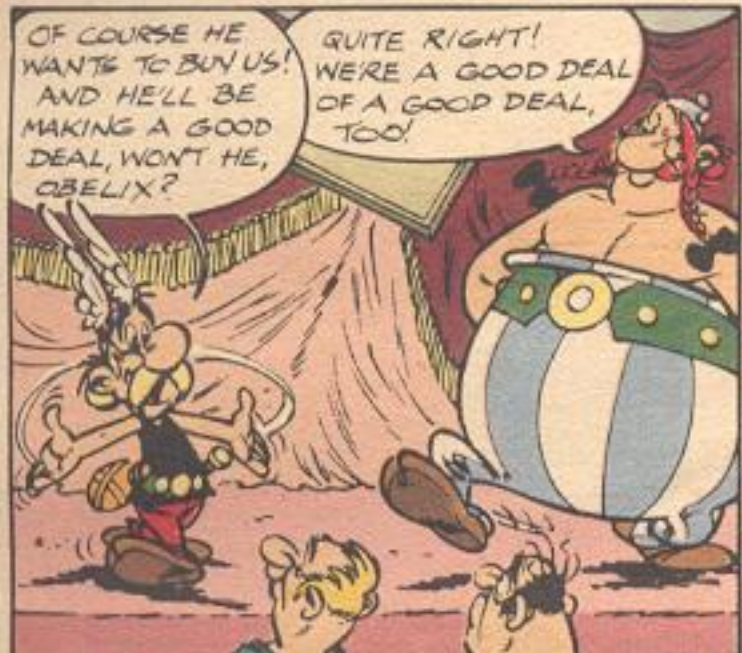


HOW MUCH FOR THOSE TWO GAULS?



YOU... YOU WANT TO BUY THEM?

I THINK THEY'RE QUITE AMUSING.



OF COURSE HE WANTS TO BUY US! AND HE'LL BE MAKING A GOOD DEAL, WON'T HE, OBELIX?

QUITE RIGHT! WE'RE A GOOD DEAL OF A GOOD DEAL, TOO!



THAT DEPENDS HOW MUCH DO YOU COST?

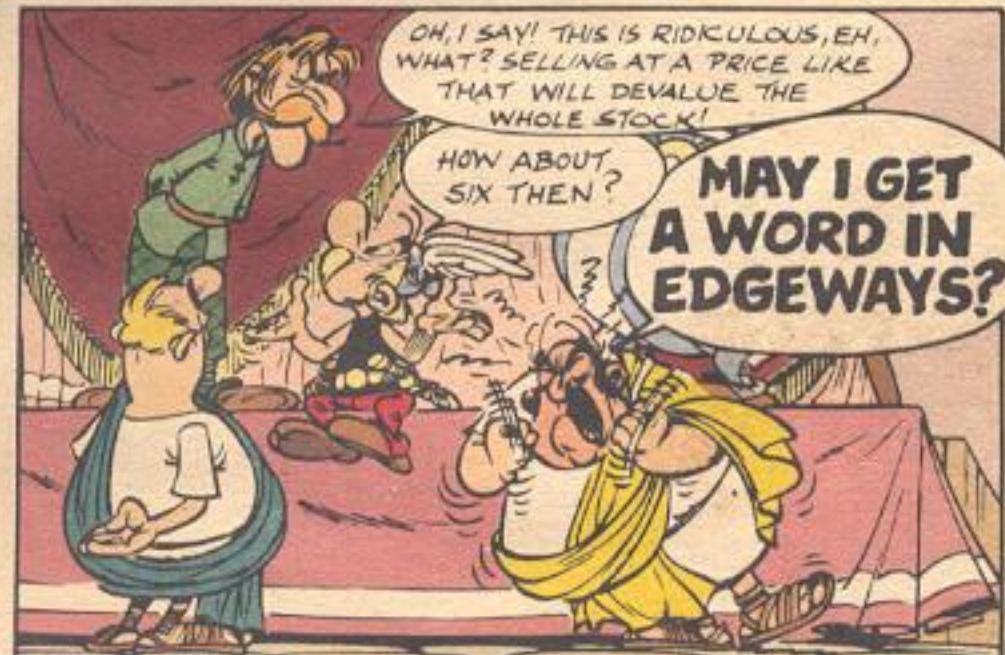
NAME YOUR PRICE! HE'LL TAKE IT.



NO, GO ON, DO! YOU NAME A PRICE.

FIVE SESTERTII THE PAIR, ALL RIGHT?

OH, COME NOW! WAIT A MINUTE...



OH, I SAY! THIS IS RIDICULOUS, EH, WHAT? SELLING AT A PRICE LIKE THAT WILL DEVALUE THE WHOLE STOCK!

HOW ABOUT SIX THEN?

MAY I GET A WORD IN EDGEWAYS?



TEN! BRITONS NEVER, NEVER, NEVER SHALL BE CUT-PRICE SLAVES!



DONE!



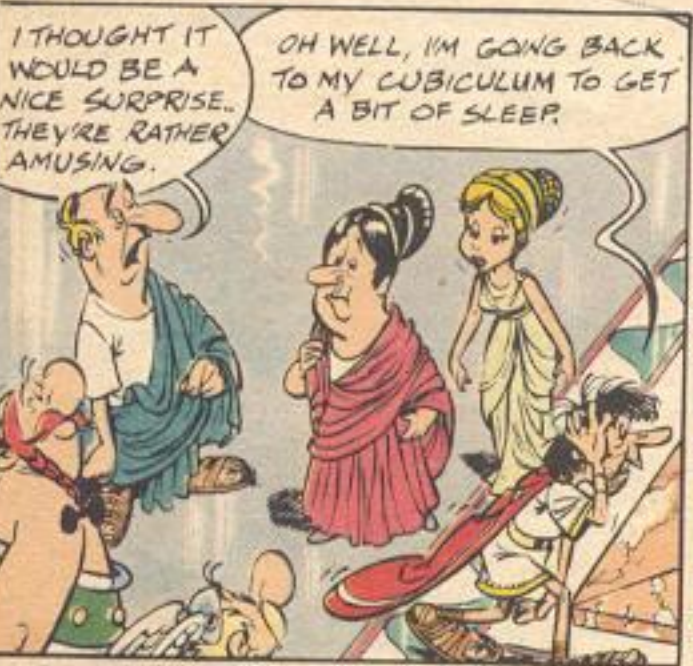
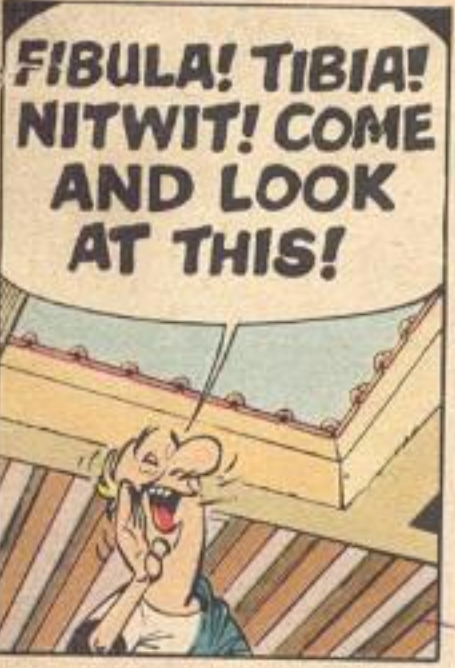
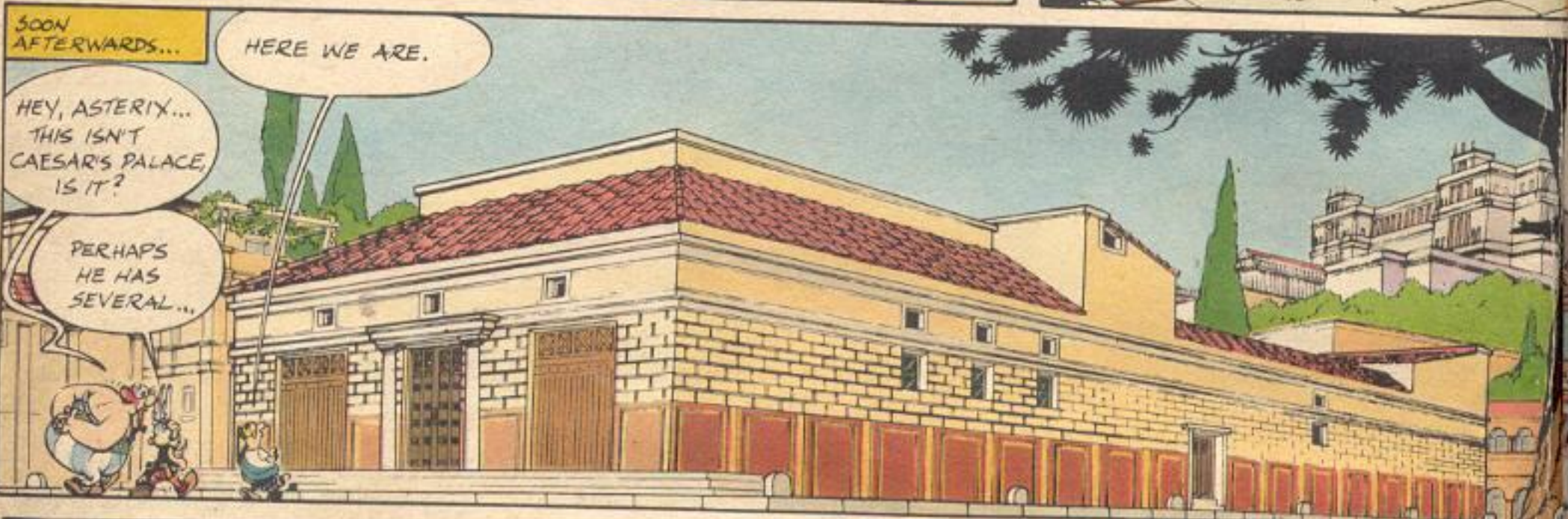
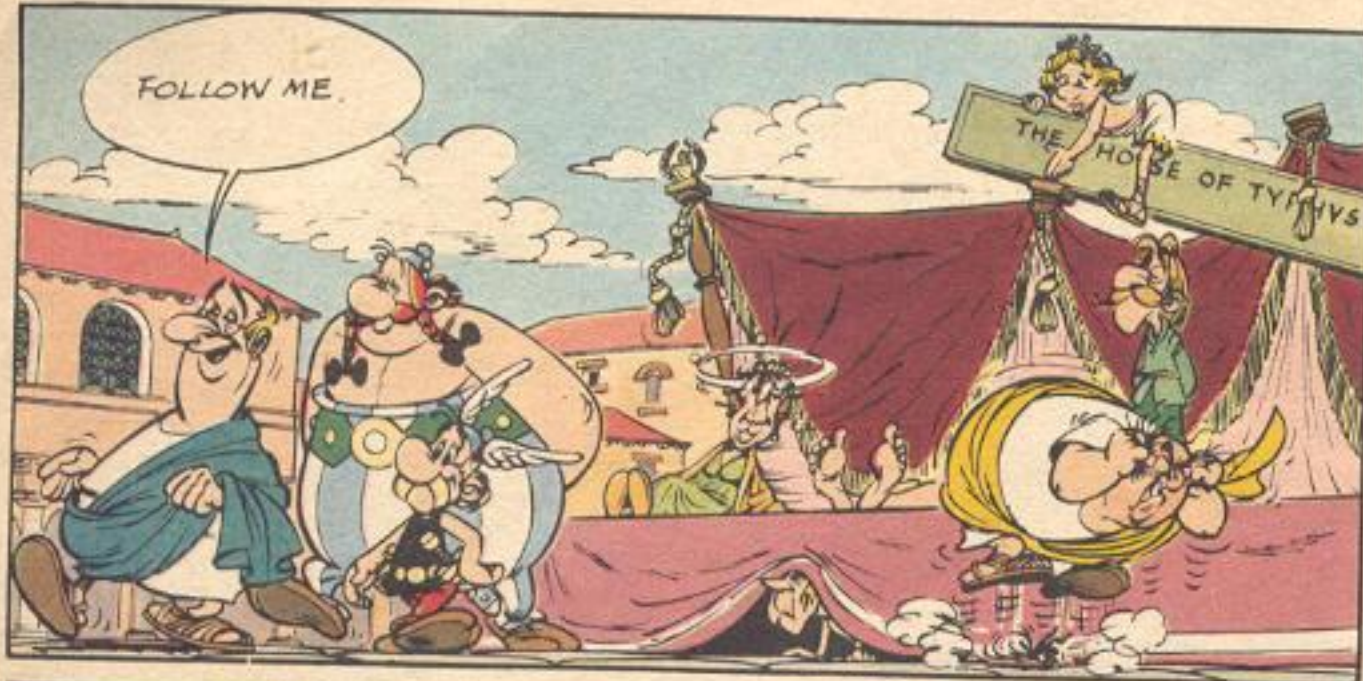
HERE YOU ARE!

OH, NO! ALLOW ME!



WELL, IF YOU INSIST, I'LL DO AS MUCH FOR YOU ONE OF THESE DAYS







WHY, NO, GAUL! THIS ISN'T CAESAR'S PALACE! THIS HOUSE BELONGS TO ME, OSSEUS HUMERUS...



AND THIS IS MY WIFE FIBULA, MY DAUGHTER TIBIA, AND MY NITWIT OF A SON, METATARSUS.



??

BUT WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH THEM? WE HAVE ALL THE SLAVES WE NEED.

THEY COULD WORK IN THE KITCHEN. GAULISH CUISINE IS GOOD... ANYWAY, IT CAN'T BE ANY WORSE THAN WHAT OUR BRITISH SLAVE AUTODIDAX GIVES US.



**GOLDEN-DELICIOUS!**



YES, MASTER?

GOLDENDELICIOUS, TAKE THESE TWO GAULISH SLAVES TO THE KITCHEN. THEY ARE TO PREPARE OUR MEALS.



GO WITH OUR MAJOR-DOMO, GOLDENDELICIOUS.

LOOK HERE...

AND TAKE CARE OF THEM, THEY'RE FROM THE HOUSE OF TYPHUS!

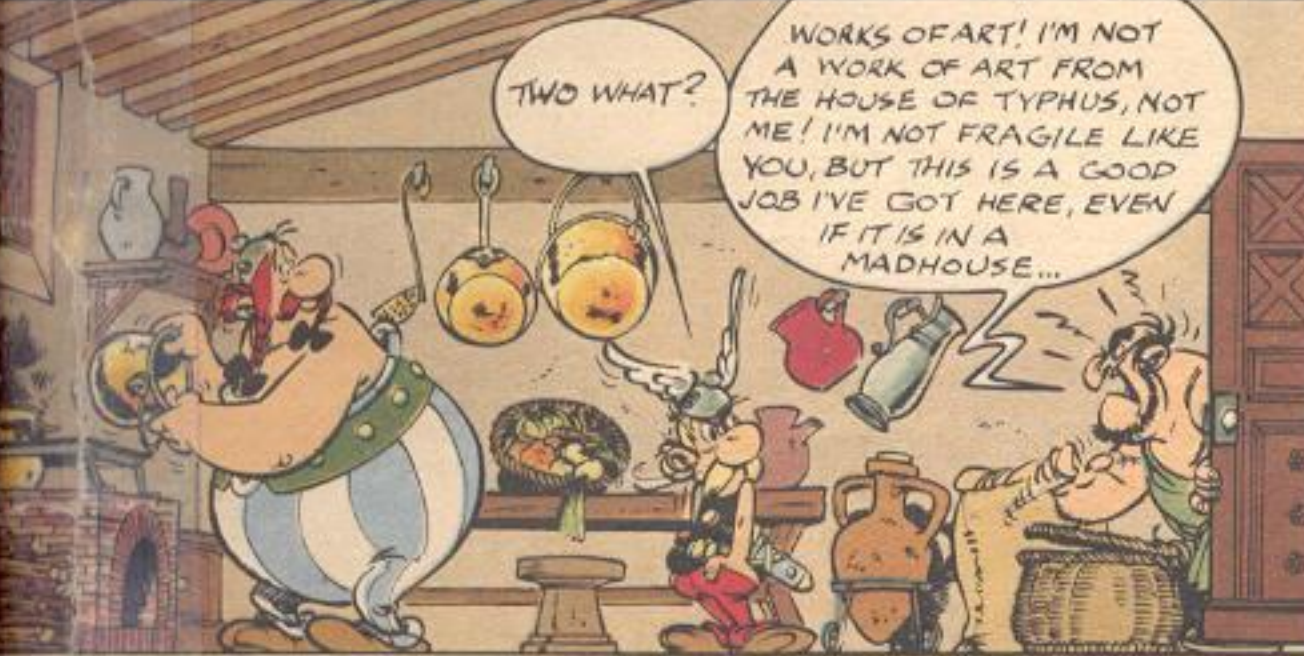


WELL, THIS IS ALL YOURS, YOU TWO PRECIOUS WORKS OF ART!



TWO WHAT?

WORKS OF ART! I'M NOT A WORK OF ART FROM THE HOUSE OF TYPHUS, NOT ME! I'M NOT FRAGILE LIKE YOU, BUT THIS IS A GOOD JOB I'VE GOT HERE, EVEN IF IT IS IN A MADHOUSE...

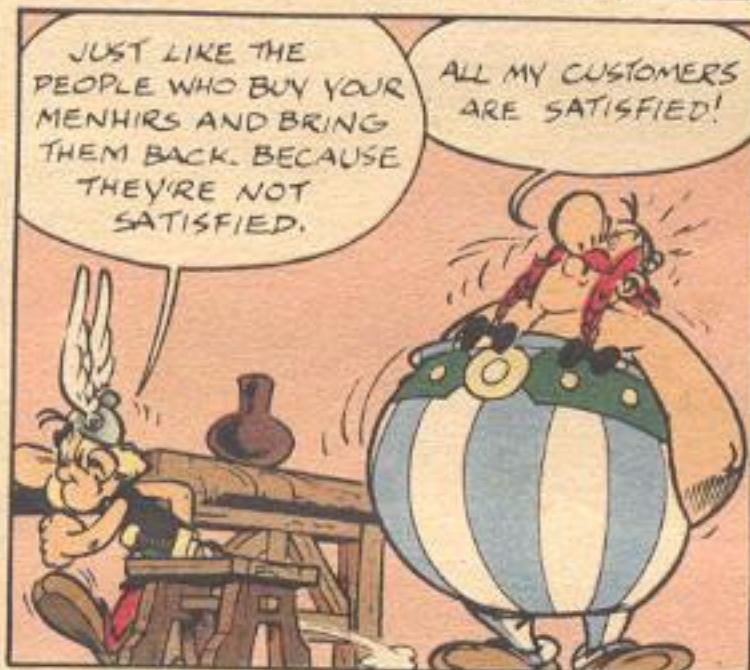


AND DON'T YOU GO TRYING TO EDGE ME OUT OF IT!

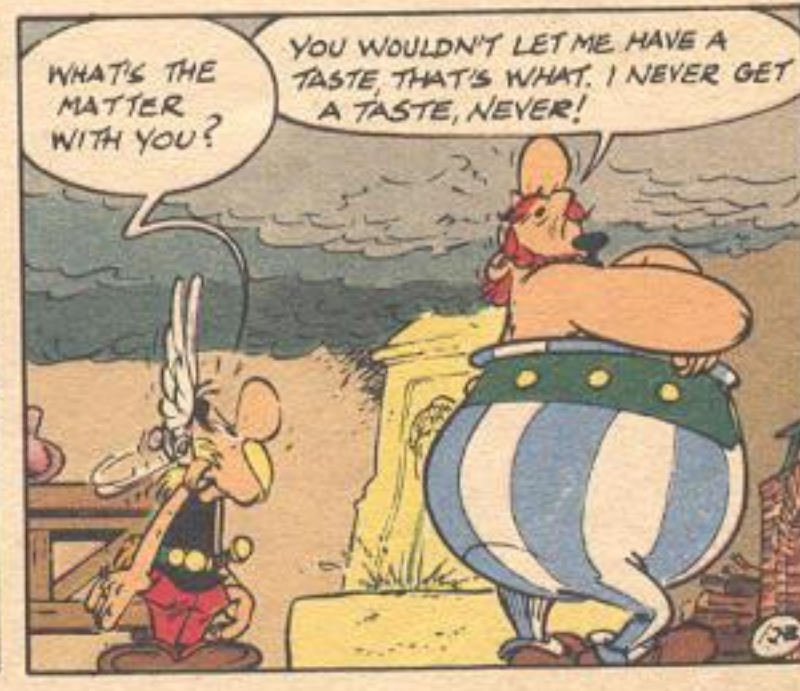
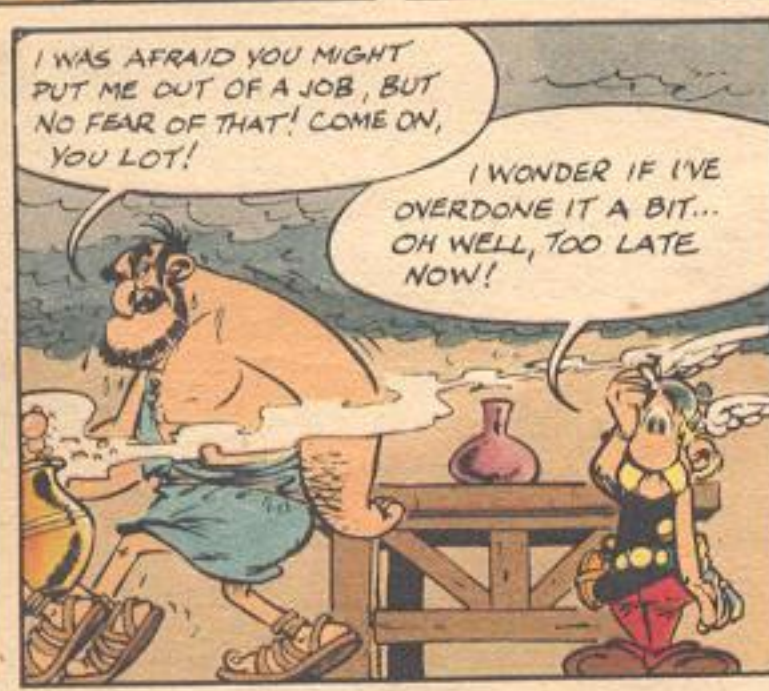
THAT ROMAN IS CRAZY! THIS IS THE FIRST TIME ANYONE EVER TOLD ME I WAS FRAGILE!













**METATARSUS! GET OUT OF YOUR CUBICULUM AND COME INTO THE TRICLINIUM! CENA IS SERVED!**



LOOK, I'LL DO ANYTHING, ONLY DON'T SHOUT LIKE THAT... I'D BETTER FLAT ON MY CUBILE, BUT IF...



THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE MANAGED TO DECUBILATE YOURSELF GIVES YOU NO RIGHT TO BEHAVE BADLY. LIE DOWN TO THE TABLE PROPERLY.

IT DOES SMELL FUNNY...

NOT FOR ME, THANKS.

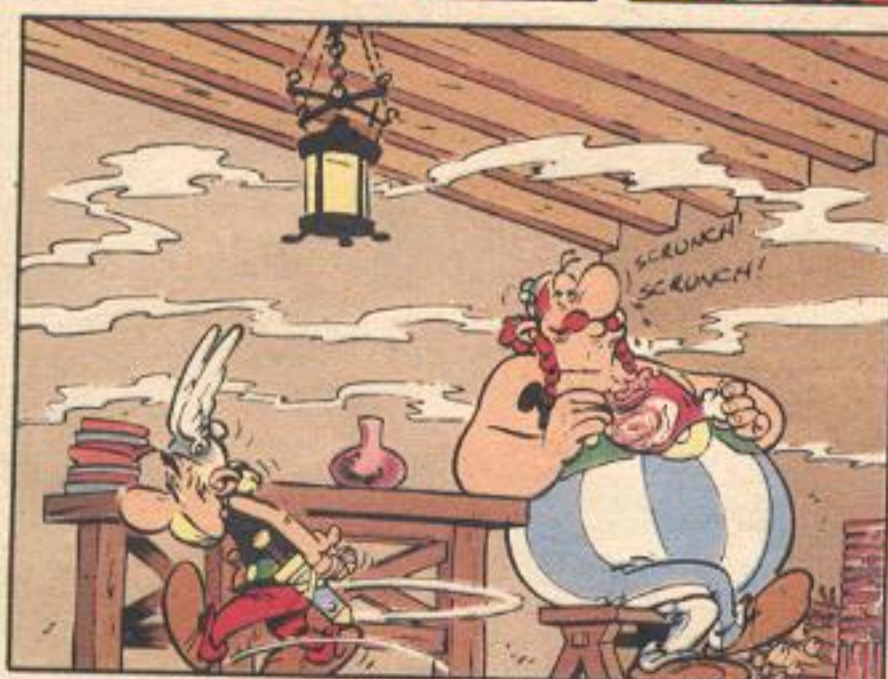


**THIS MEAL WAS COOKED BY MY TWO GAULS FROM THE HOUSE OF TYPHUS YOU'LL EAT IT AND LIKE IT!!!**



etc...

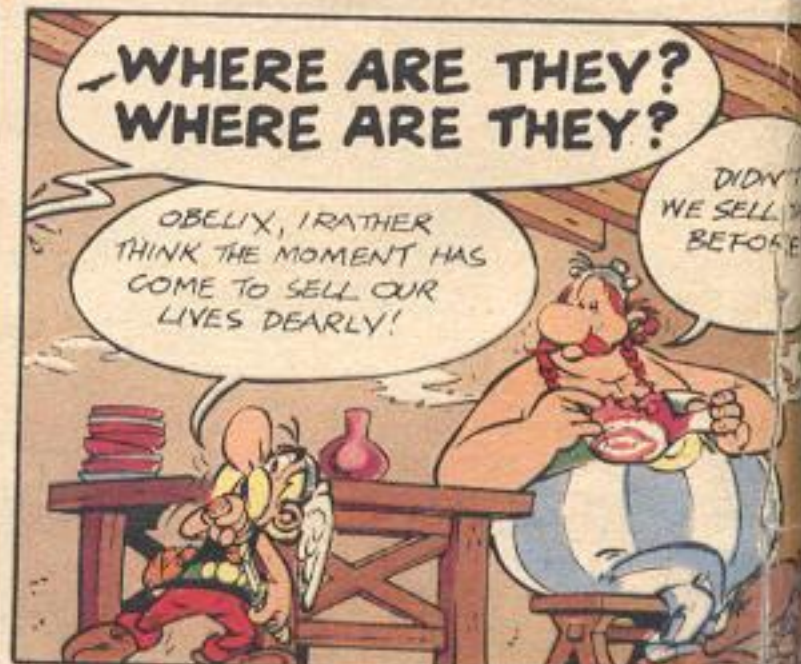
TEEHEE HEE!



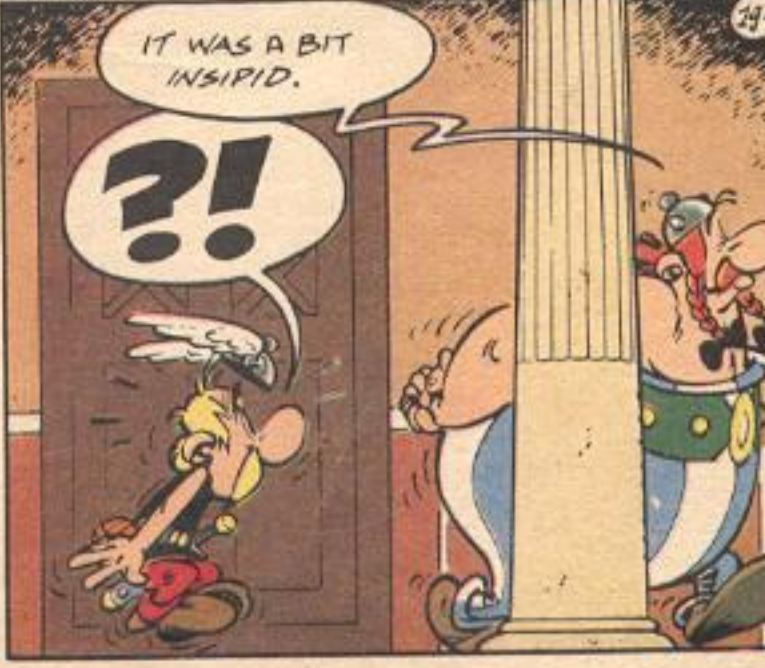
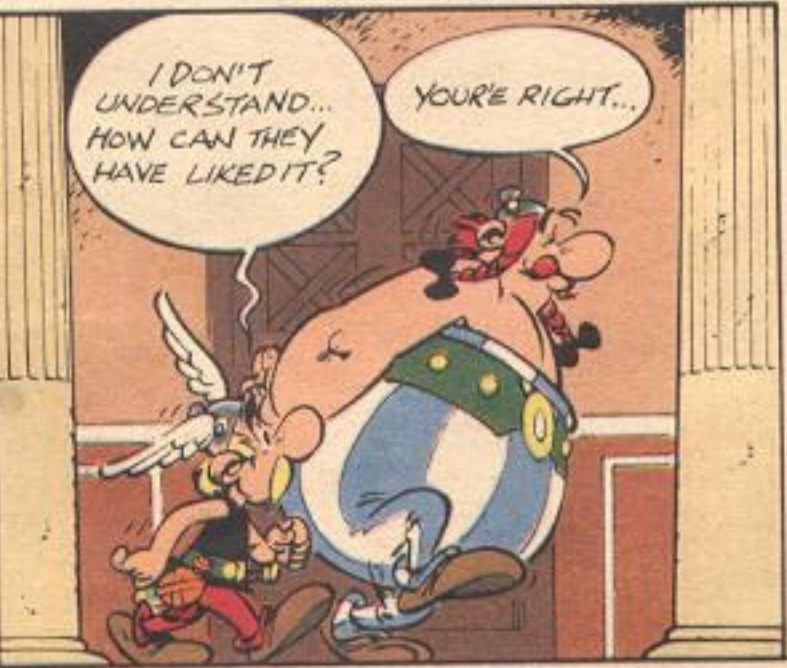
**WHERE ARE THEY? WHERE ARE THEY?**

OBELEX, I RATHER THINK THE MOMENT HAS COME TO SELL OUR LIVES DEARLY!

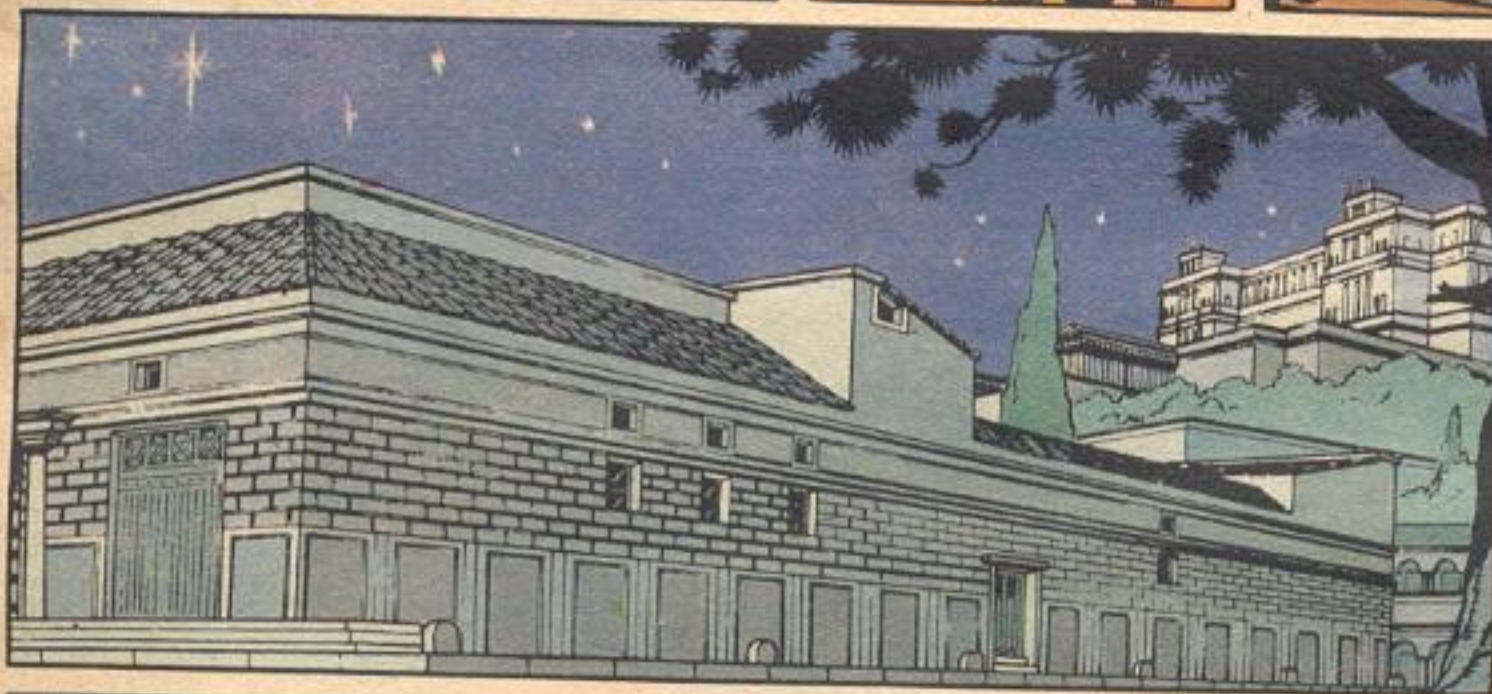
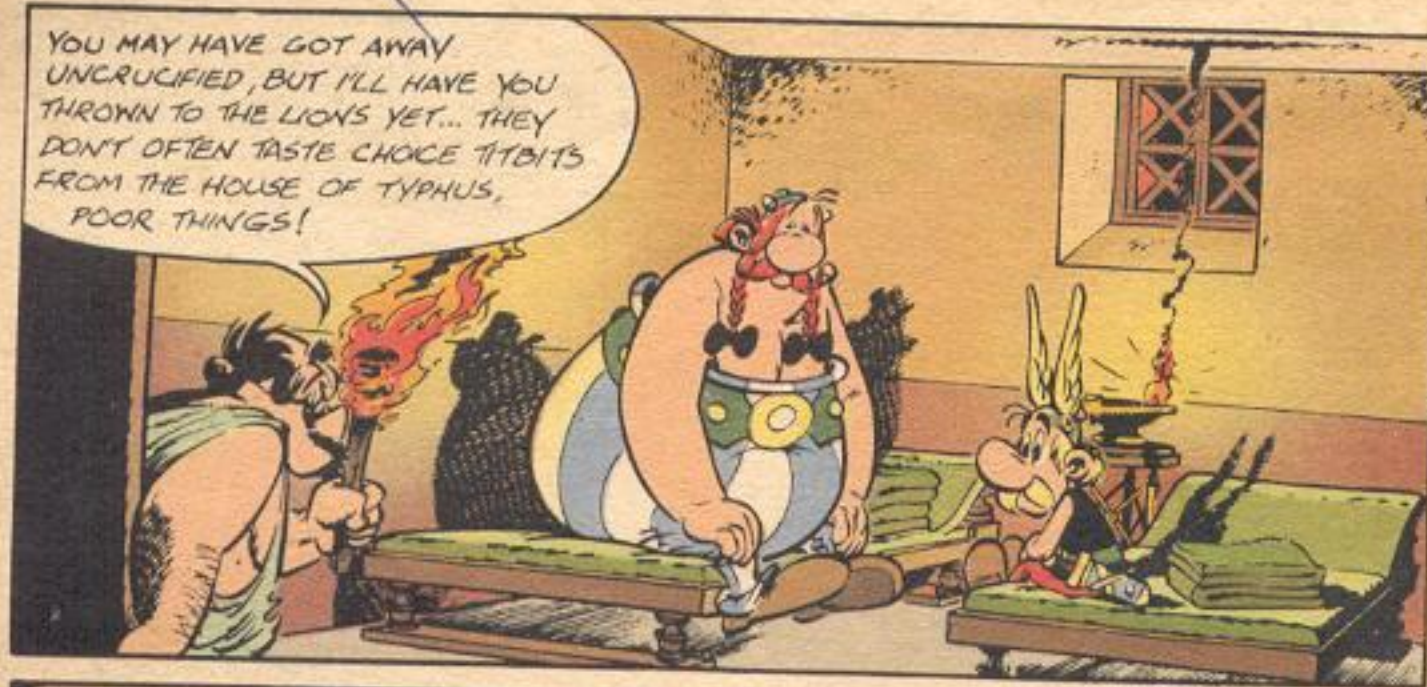
DIDN'T WE SELL BEFORE?



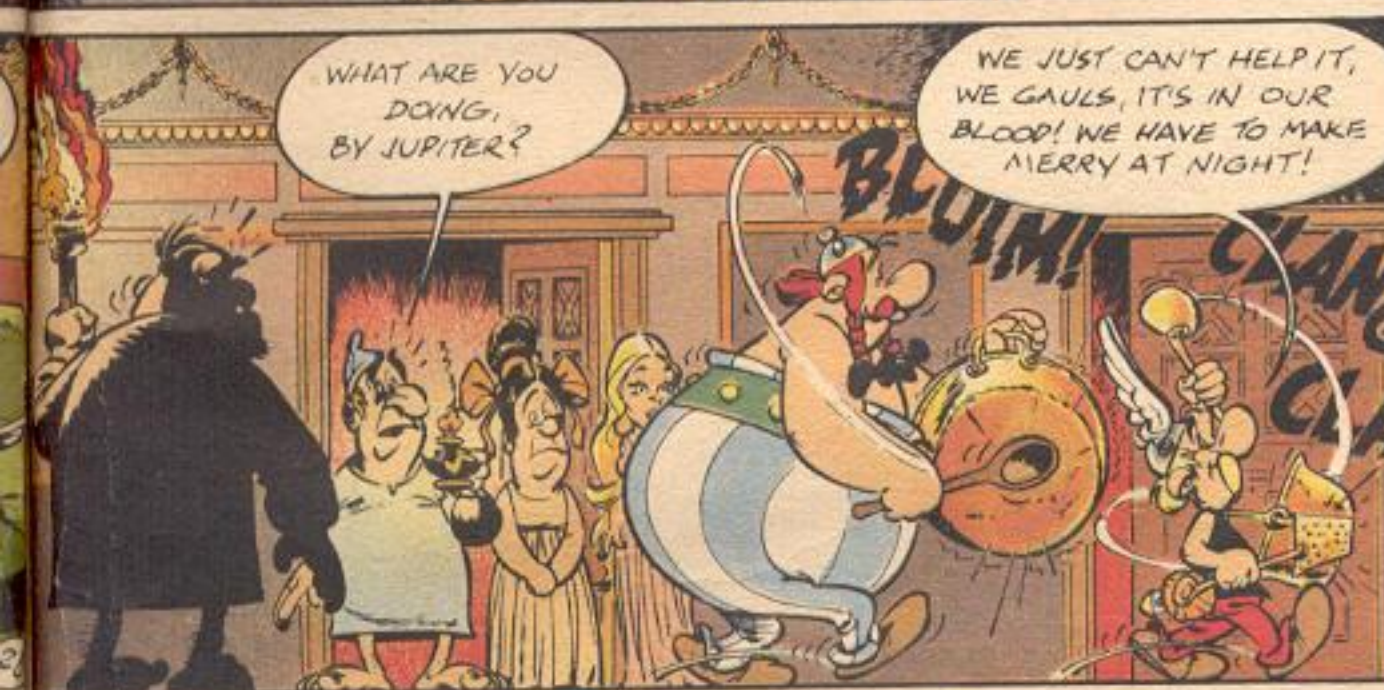






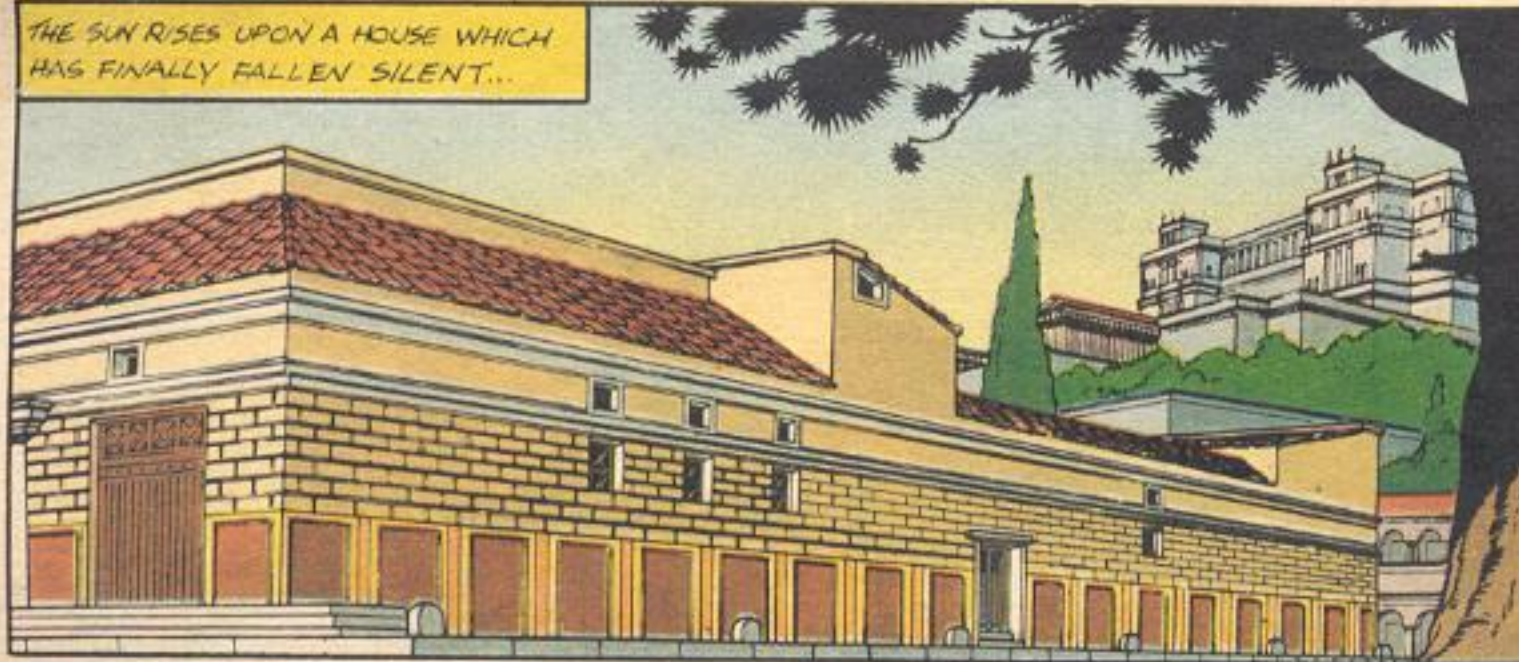








THE SUN RISES UPON A HOUSE WHICH HAS FINALLY FALLEN SILENT...



COME ON, YOU LOT! BRING OUT YOUR MAPPAE AND SCOPAE! \*

\* FLOORCLOTHS AND BROOMS



CLEAN THE PLACE UP! I'M GOING TO WAKE THE MASTER.



MASTER, THE SUN IS ALREADY HIGH IN THE SKY. AM I TO SEND FOR THE TONSOR TO SHAVE YOU?



NO! AND TELL ALL THOSE OTHER IDIOTS THAT IF THEY GO ON MAKING THAT NOISE I'LL SEND THEM OFF AS A JOB LOT, WITH YOU AND THE TONSOR THROWN IN!

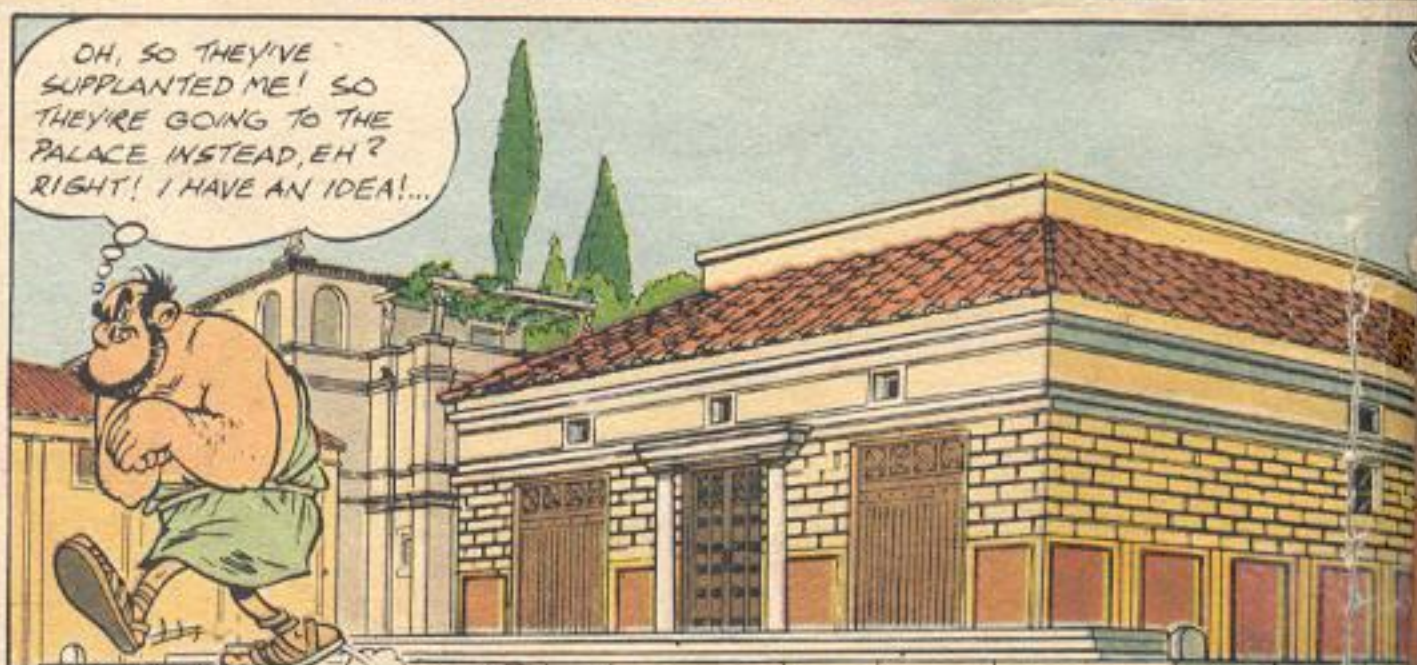


OOOHH! MY HEAD...

EX... MASTER... MAY I REMIND YOU THAT YOU HAVE AN IMPORTANT ENGAGEMENT AT THE PALACE THIS MORNING? AM I TO GO AND SAY YOU'RE ILL?

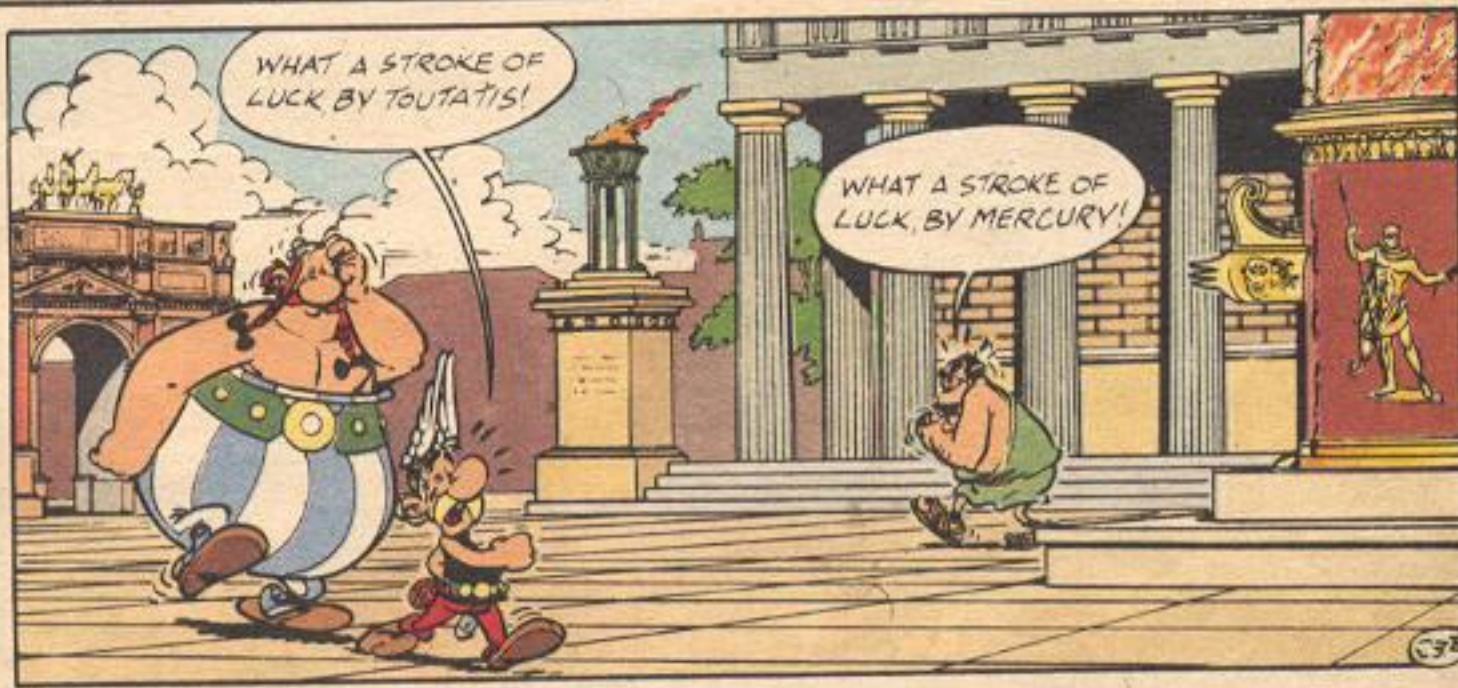


HMM? NO... I'LL SEND MY GAULS FROM THE HOUSE OF TYPHUS, THAT WILL LOOK MORE ELEGANT. NOW LEAVE ME ALONE. I FEEL A BIT EX COLORE. CLEAR OFF!

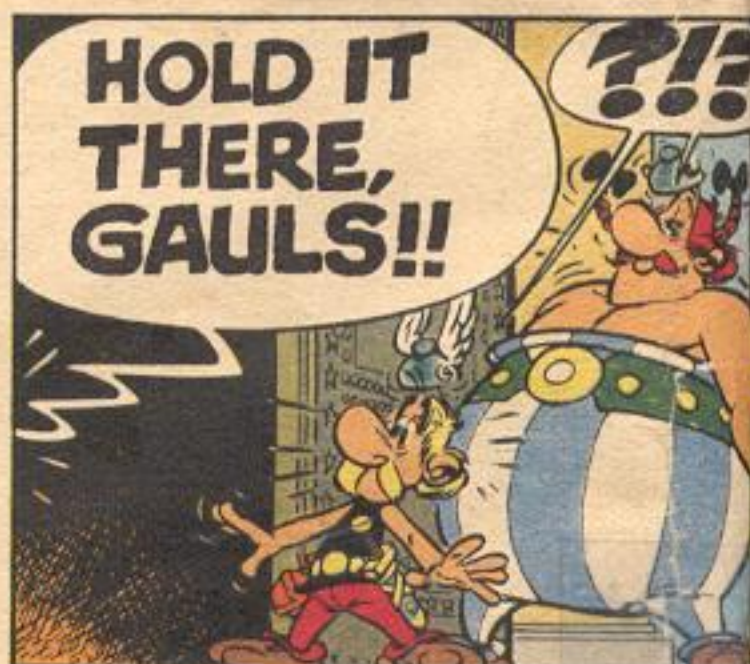
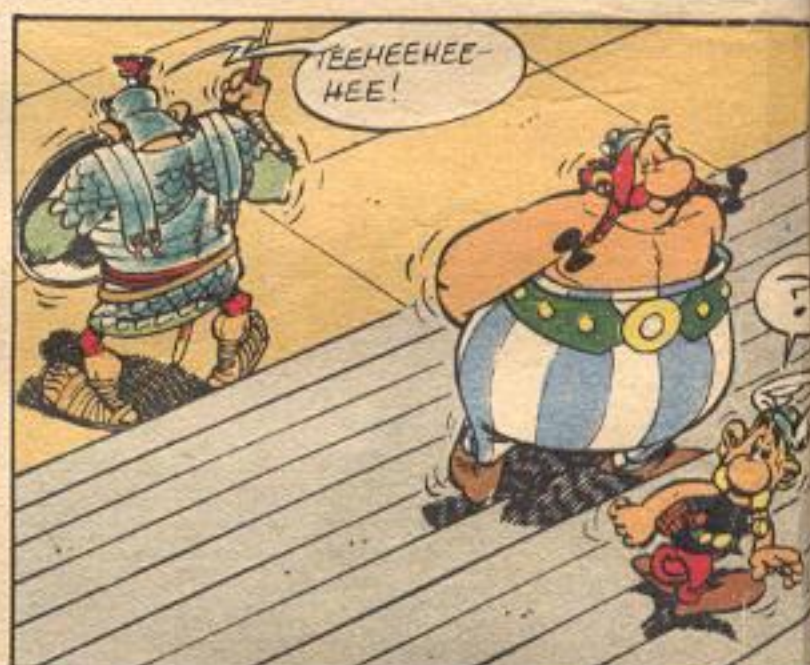
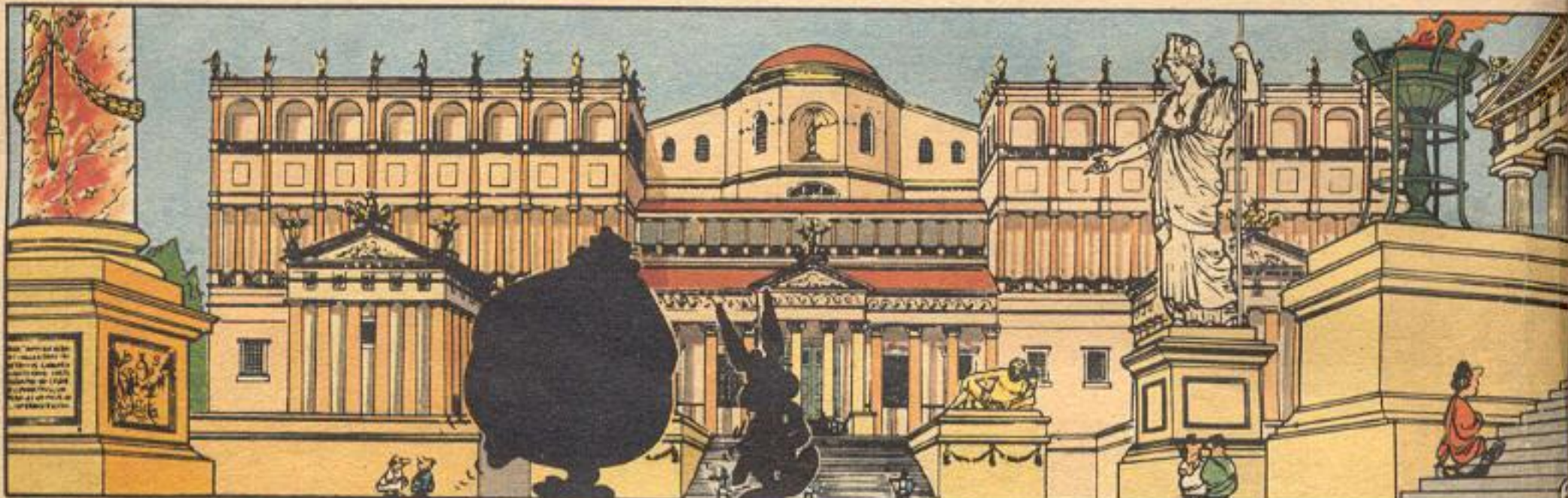
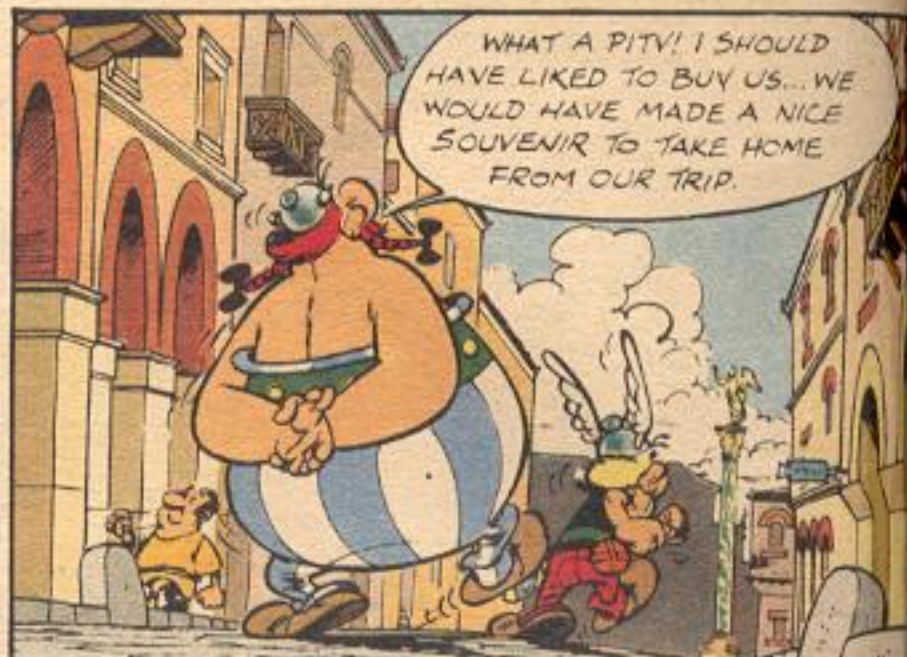


OH, SO THEY'VE SUPPLANTED ME! SO THEY'RE GOING TO THE PALACE INSTEAD, EH? RIGHT! I HAVE AN IDEA!...

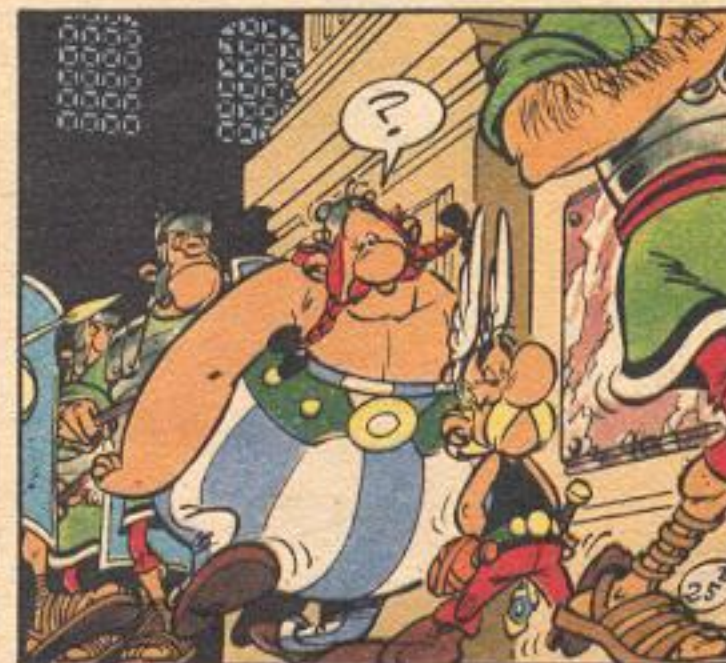




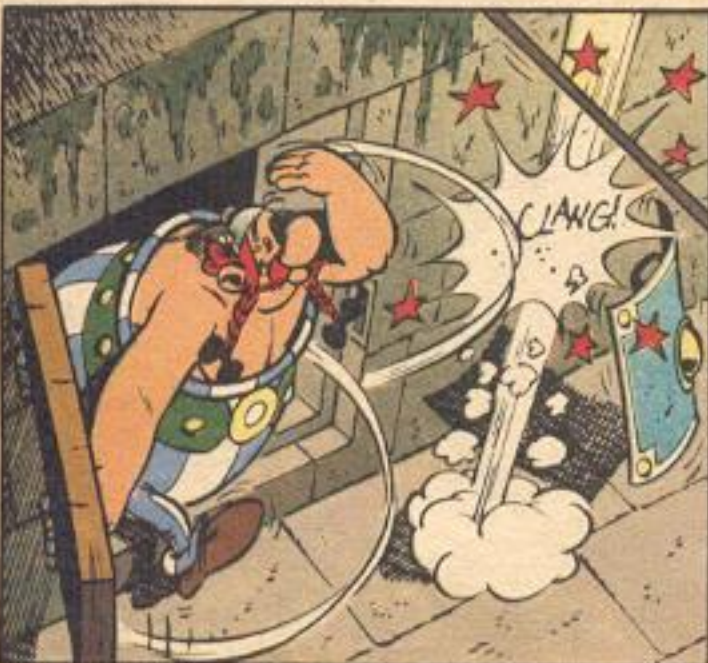






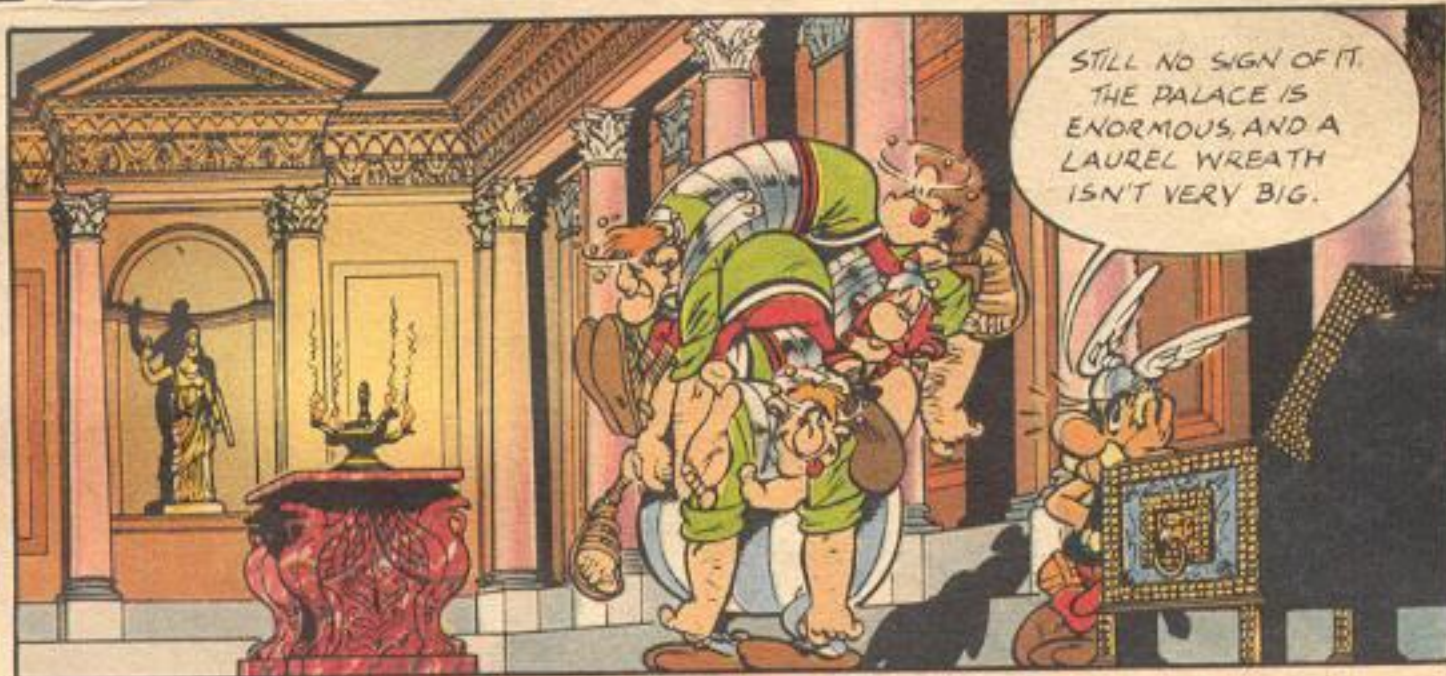








WE'LL SEARCH EVERYWHERE,  
AS QUIETLY AS POSSIBLE.



I'LL JUST DUMP THESE HERE... WE  
SEEM TO BE GETTING ON TOP OF ONE  
ANOTHER. THEN WE CAN GO ON.



NO, NO! IT'S  
NEARLY DAYLIGHT.  
LET'S GET BACK  
TO OUR CELL.  
WE'LL CARRY  
ON TOMORROW  
NIGHT.

WHEN ARE WE GOING  
TO GET SOME SLEEP?  
THEY WON'T LET US  
LIE IN, I BET!





ANOTHER SUNNY DAY HAS JUST DAWNED UPON THE GREATEST CITY IN THE UNIVERSE: ROME!

**SOUND THE ALARM!**

**THE PRISONERS HAVE ESCAPED!**

WHERE AM I?

ON TOP OF ME, YOU IDIOT!

THEY KNOCKED OUT ALL THE GUARDS ON NIGHT DUTY. THIS IS REALLY GETTING ON TOP OF ME!

LOOK, CENTURION! THE LOCK IS BROKEN!

**BY JUPITER!**

**YOU ROMANS MUST BE CRAZY! IS THERE NO WAY OF GETTING ANY SLEEP ROUND HERE???**

**!!**

YOU... YOU HAVEN'T ESCAPED?

NO! SHUT THE DOOR, AND GET THAT LOCK REPAIRED!

I... I'M SORRY...

HUH! WE CAN'T GET PEACE AND QUIET ANYWHERE!

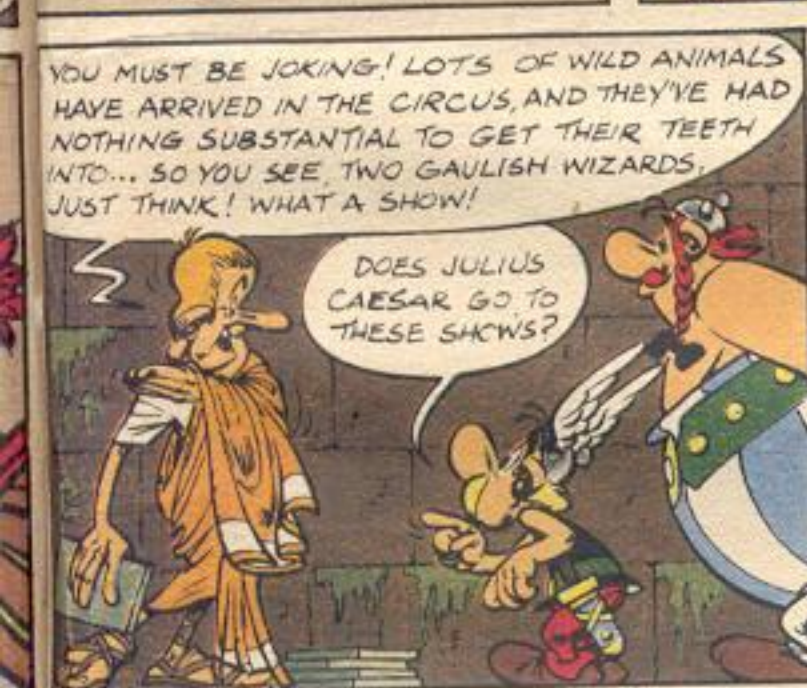
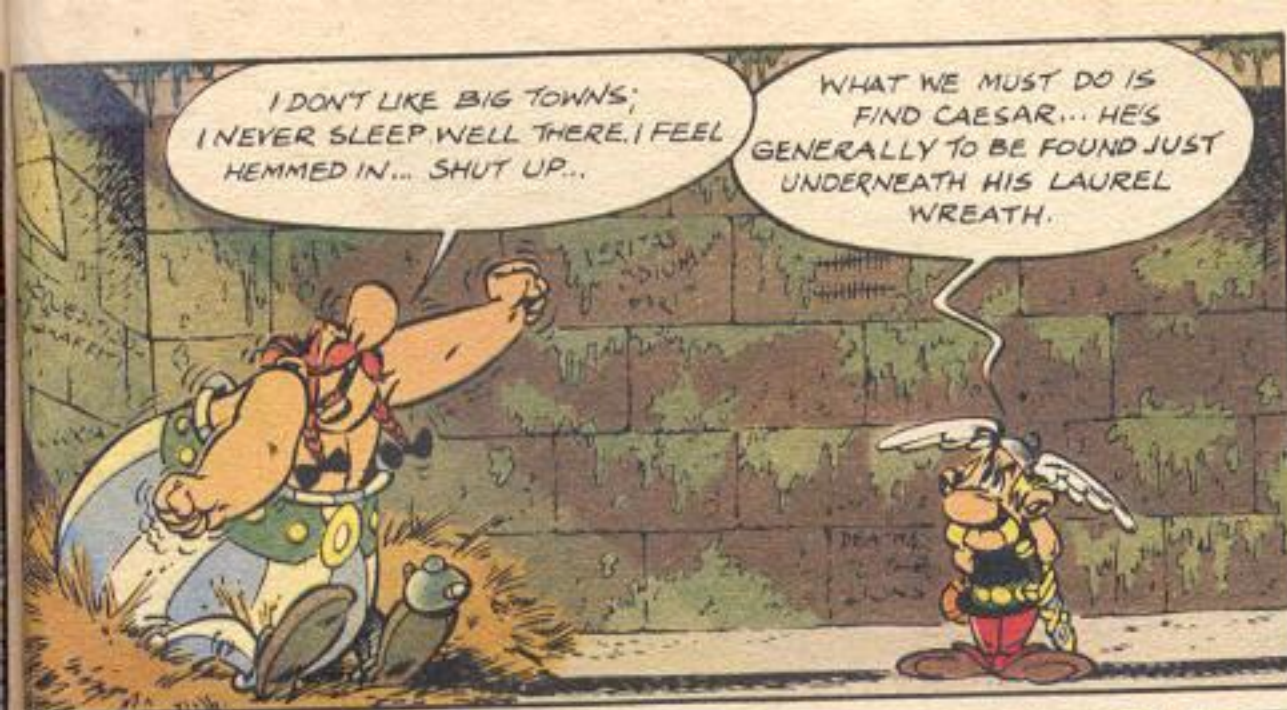
THEY'RE WIZARDS!

GAULISH DRUIDS, PERHAPS...

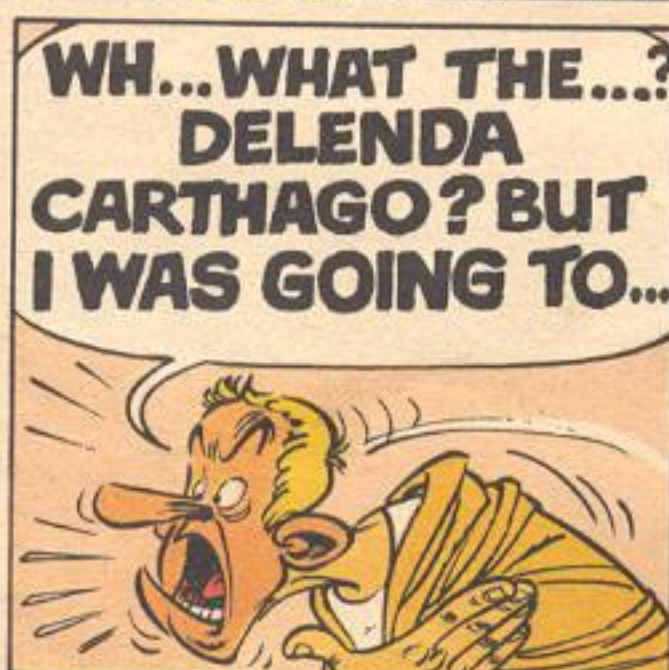
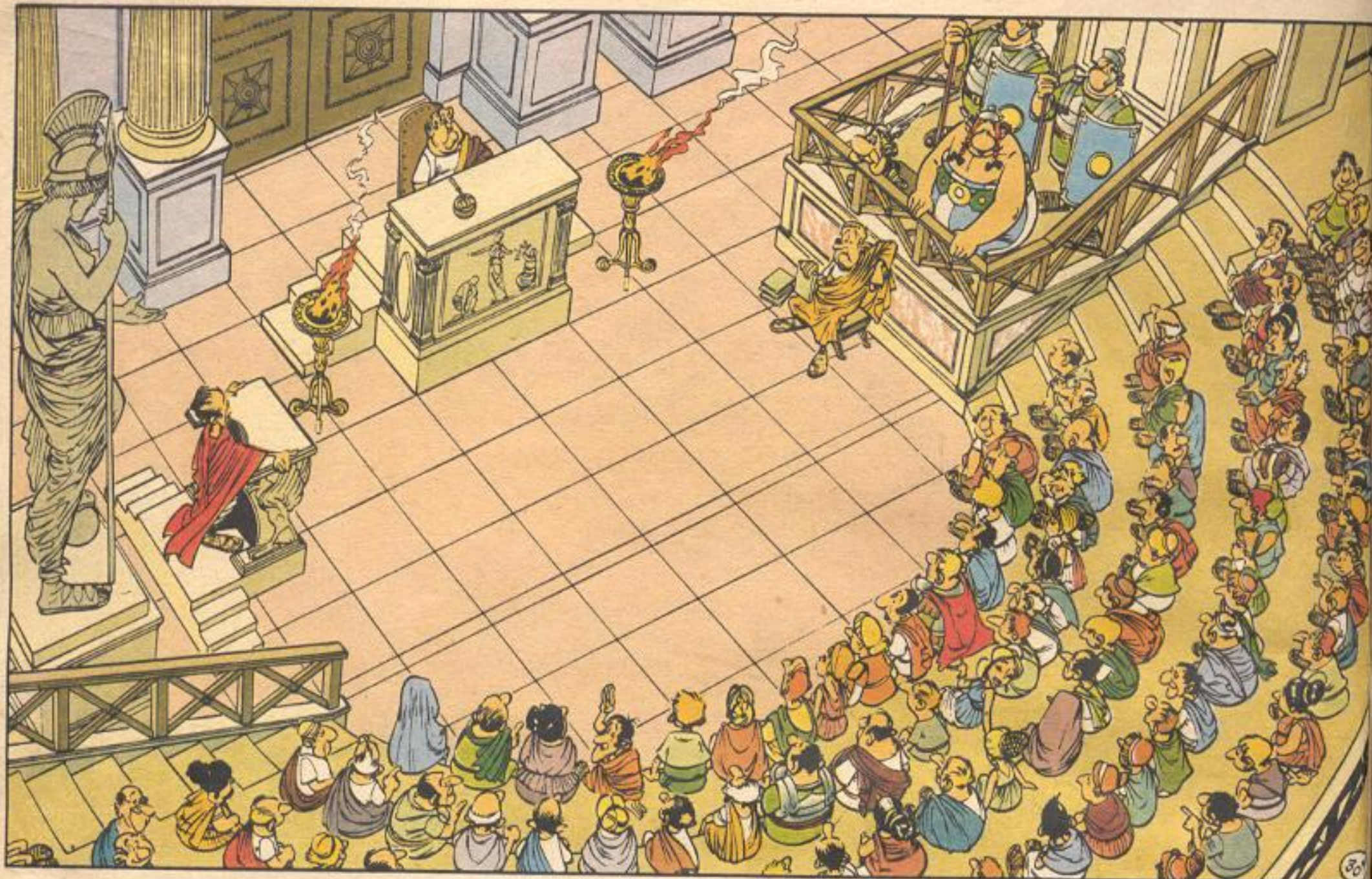
THE GAULS HAVE STRANGE AND TERRIBLE GODS...!

WE MUST GET RID OF THEM, AND QUICKLY! I WAS WAITING FOR CAESAR TO RETURN; HOWEVER, IT CAN'T BE HELPED... MEANWHILE, DOUBLE THE GUARD! SPREAD YOURSELVES OUT! DON'T GET ON TOP OF ONE ANOTHER!





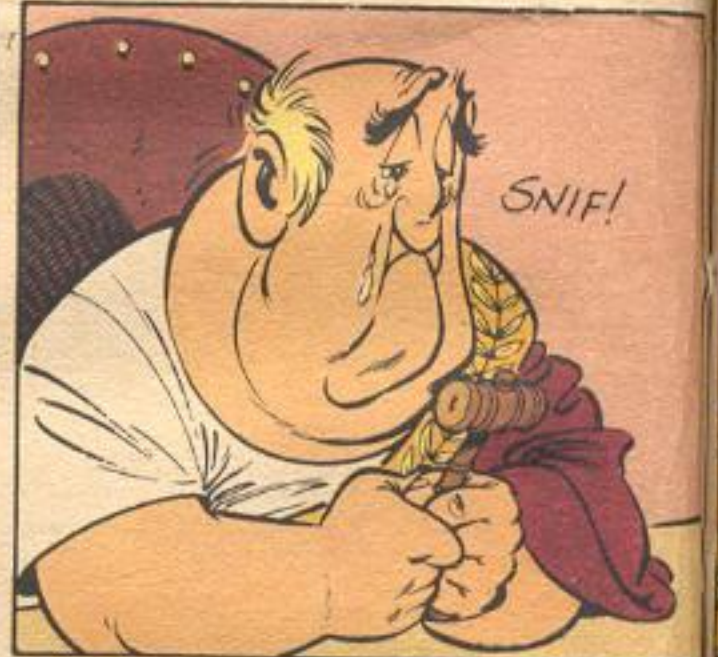
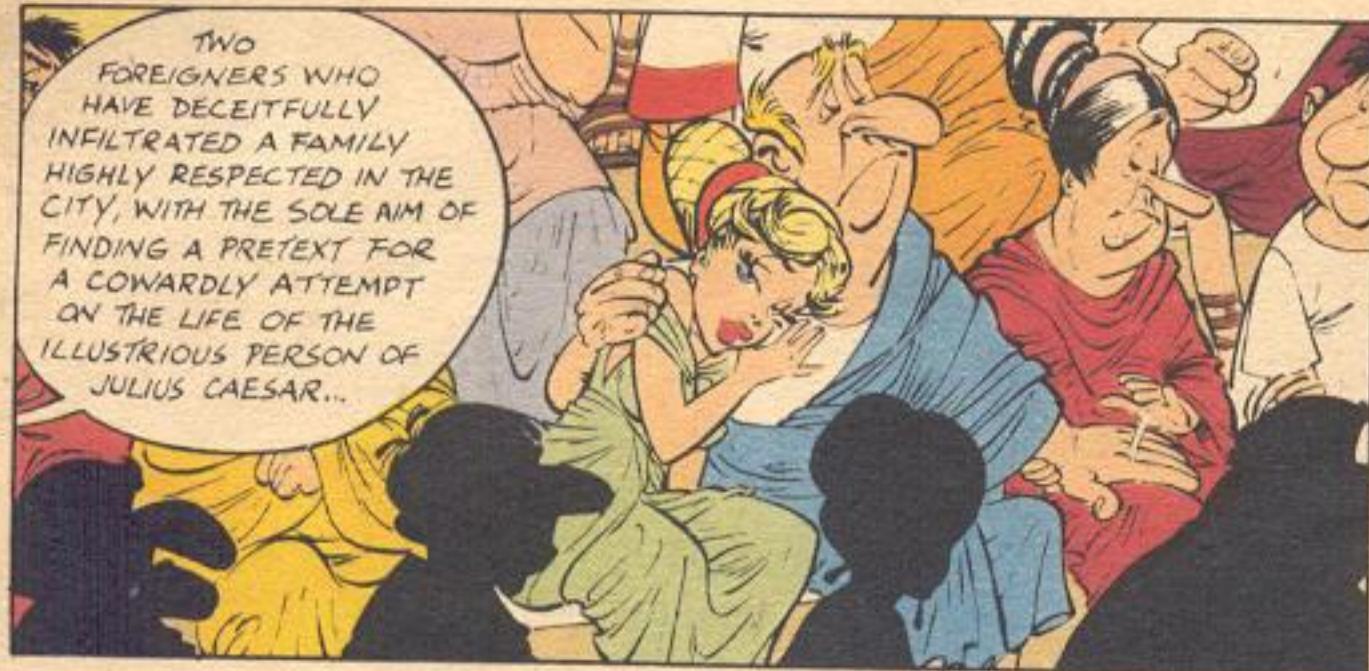














ONE OF THE SINISTER  
CELLS IN THE CIRCUS  
MAXIMUS...

TYPHUS HAS SENT YOU THIS  
AMPHORA OF WINE, AND THESE  
DELICACIES ARE FROM THE  
HUMERUS FAMILY...



THAT ROAST  
BOAR WAS  
GOOD.

THAT'S THE ADVANTAGE  
OF BEING THROWN TO  
THE LIONS. YOU ALWAYS  
GET TASTY GOURMET  
DISHES...



WHEREAS THOSE THROWN  
FROM THE TARPEIAN ROCK  
GET SOLID, HEAVY FOOD.



THERE'S A FANTASTIC LINE-UP ON THE  
PROGRAMME: LIONS, PANTHERS, LEOPARDS,  
TIGERS! ALL FINE SPECIMENS! THEY'VE  
EATEN NOTHING BUT LETTUCE FOR A  
WHOLE WEEK NOW!



SO YOU HAVE NO CAUSE  
FOR COMPLAINT! YOU  
REALLY ARE SPOILT!



ASTERIX,  
I'M SCARED.

SCARED? SCARED  
OF A FEW WILD  
ANIMALS?



OH, I'M NOT WORRIED  
ABOUT THE ANIMALS, IT'S  
THE PUBLIC! ALL THOSE  
PEOPLE!

YOU'LL BE ALL  
RIGHT IN THE  
ARENA...



I'M SURE THAT ONCE THE  
SHOW BEGINS OTHER  
PRISONERS FORGET THEIR  
PAGE FRIGHT TOO AND  
THINK OF NOTHING BUT  
THE ANIMALS.

I'M  
AFRAID OF  
LETTING THE...  
AUDIENCE DOWN...  
LOOKING SILLY...



EXCUSE ME, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE  
A DROP OF OIL TO RUB ME DOWN  
WITH, WOULD YOU - LIKE THE  
GLADIATORS? IT LOOKS GOOD.

OIL?

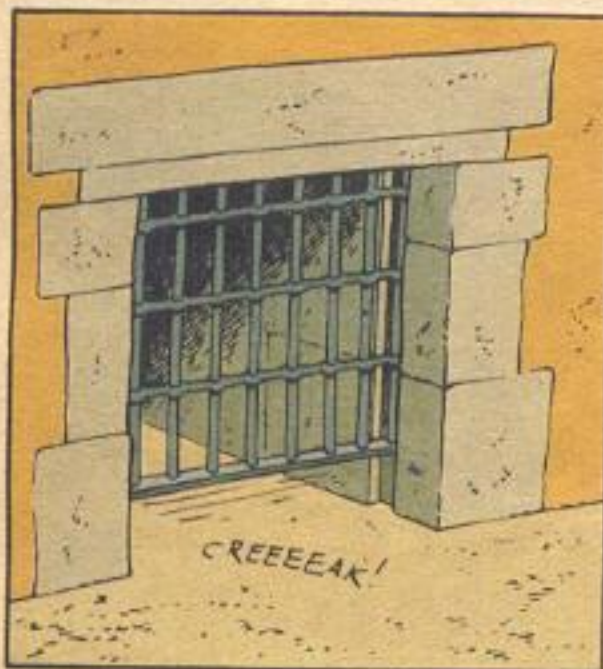
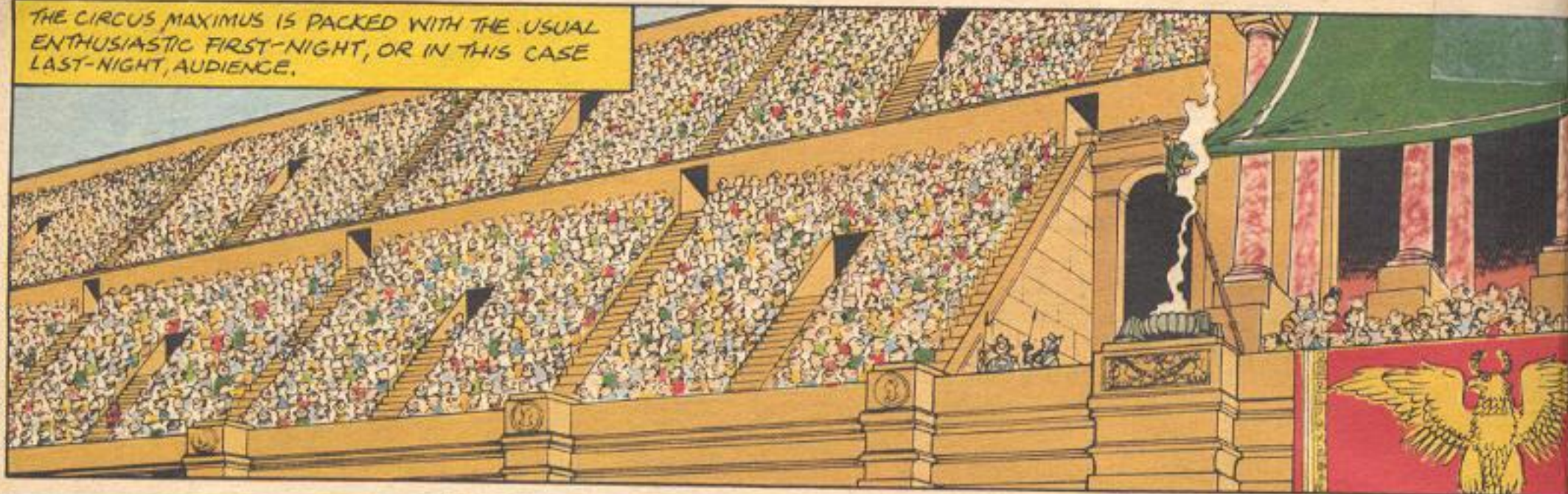


DON'T YOU THINK  
MUSTARD WOULD BE  
MORE APPROPRIATE.





THE CIRCUS MAXIMUS IS PACKED WITH THE USUAL ENTHUSIASTIC FIRST-NIGHT, OR IN THIS CASE LAST-NIGHT, AUDIENCE.







I SAID JULIUS CAESAR ISN'T HERE, AND...

WHERE IS HE?



HE'S FIGHTING A CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE PIRATES, I THINK... WELL, ON YOU GO, AND ALL THE BEST!



IF JULIUS CAESAR ISN'T PRESENT, WE'RE NOT GOING ON! WE'LL WAIT FOR HIM!



WHAT DO YOU MEAN, WAIT FOR HIM?! YOU CAN'T DO THAT!

OH YES, WE CAN!

AND ALL THE BEST TO YOU TOO!

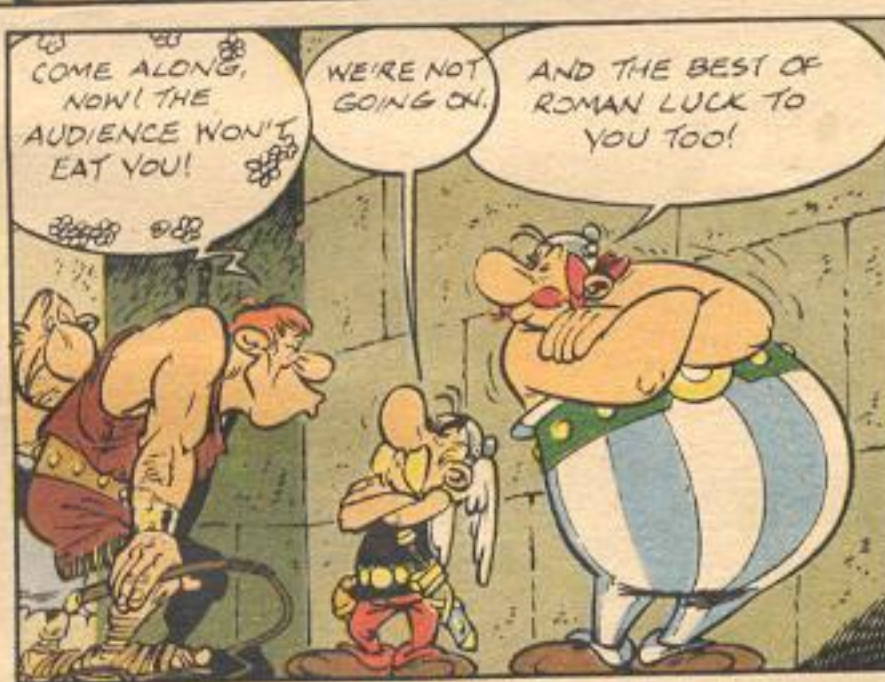


HEY, ARE THEY COMING ON? THE CROWD IS GETTING IMPATIENT, AND WE CAN'T HOLD THE ANIMALS ANY LONGER. ONE OF THE LIONS HAS ALREADY EATEN A PANTHER!



THEY DON'T WANT TO GO ON!

OH, THAT'S NOTHING NEW... WE'RE ALWAYS DEALING WITH BEGINNERS IN THIS JOB.



COME ALONG, NOW! THE AUDIENCE WON'T EAT YOU!

WE'RE NOT GOING ON.

AND THE BEST OF ROMAN LUCK TO YOU TOO!



LET'S FORCE THEM IN, JAILER!

RIGHT, ANIMAL TAMER!

GO ON, ASTERIX!

RIGHT! GO ON, OBELIX!



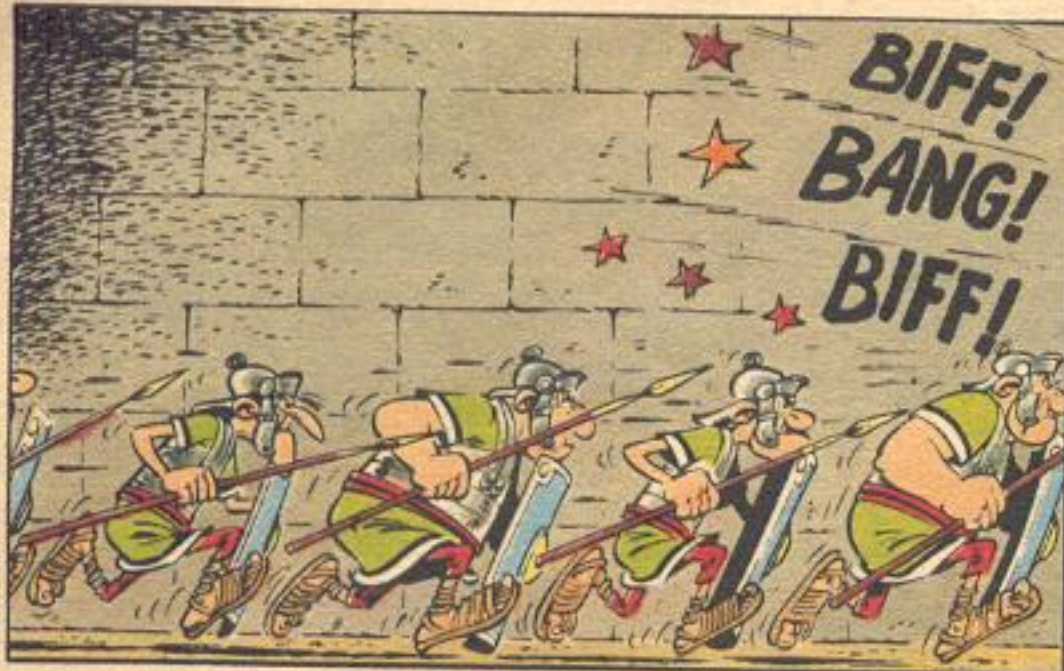
BIFF!



WILL YOU PICK UP THE WHIP, PLEASE, ASTERIX?

GUAAAAARDS!



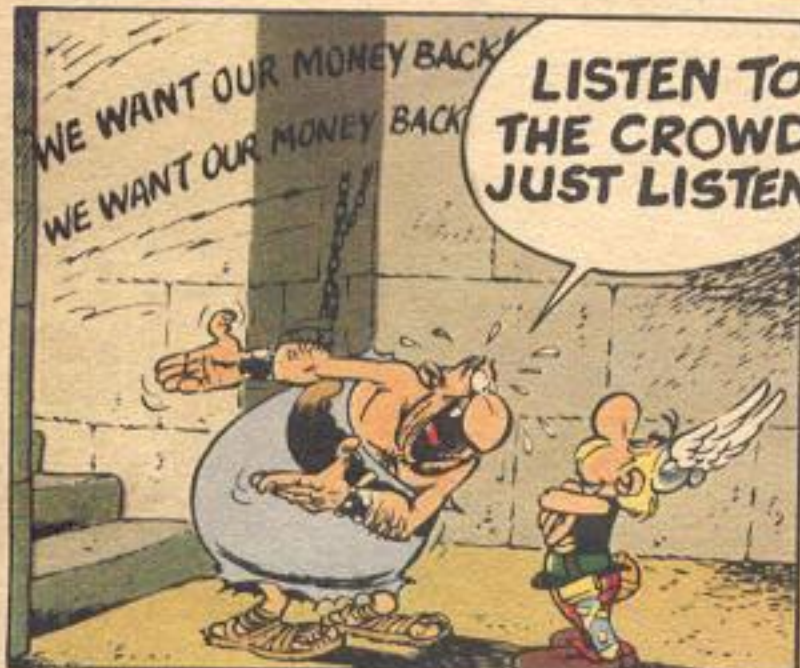


**BIFF!  
BANG!  
BIFF!**



AREN'T THERE ANY MORE?

**THIS ISN'T THE PLACE FOR THAT KIND OF THING! IF YOU WANT TO FIGHT, GO INTO THE ARENA!**



**WE WANT OUR MONEY BACK!  
WE WANT OUR MONEY BACK!**

**LISTEN TO THE CROWD!  
JUST LISTEN!**



FOR PITY'S SAKE, GO INTO THE ARENA! THEY'LL FLATTEN THE CIRCUS! THE CIRCUS IS MY WHOLE LIFE!

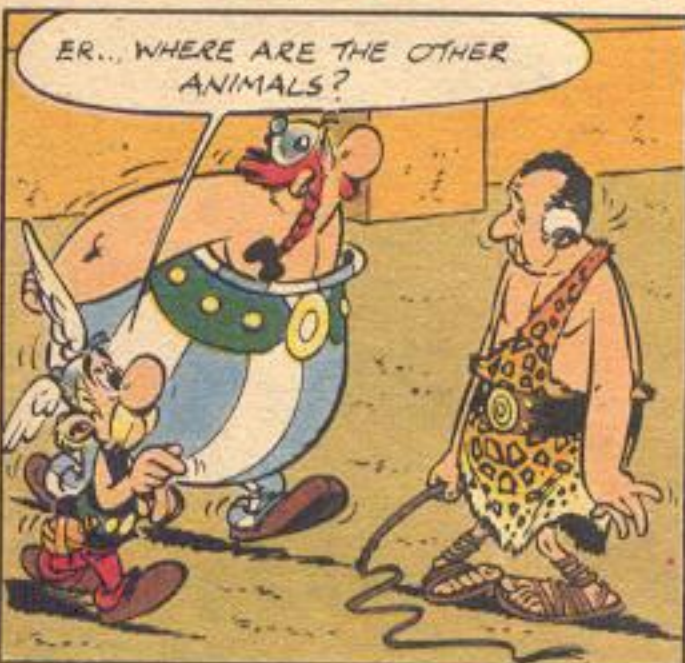


OH, VERY WELL, WE'LL GO ON, BUT ONLY TO PLEASE YOU.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! YOU WON'T REGRET IT!



?



ER... WHERE ARE THE OTHER ANIMALS?



**INSIDE THAT ONE!**

**THIEVES! SWINDLERS!  
WE'LL WRECK THE CIRCUS!**

BURP!



**GUARDS!  
GET EVERYBODY  
OUT!**

**EVERYBODY OUT!  
EVERYBODY,  
BY JUPITER!**

**OUT!  
EVERYBODY  
OUT!**

NOT US!  
HE DOESN'T  
MEAN US!

OH, SHUT UP,  
OBELIX!

THAT MIX-UP GAVE US GOOD  
COVER. WE'VE SEEN ENOUGH  
OF THIS PERFORMANCE.  
LET'S FIND A PEACEFUL  
SPOT TO SLEEP.

WHAT A  
GOOD IDEA!

WE SHOULD  
BE ALL RIGHT HERE.  
TOMORROW WE'LL  
THINK ABOUT OUR  
NEXT MOVE.

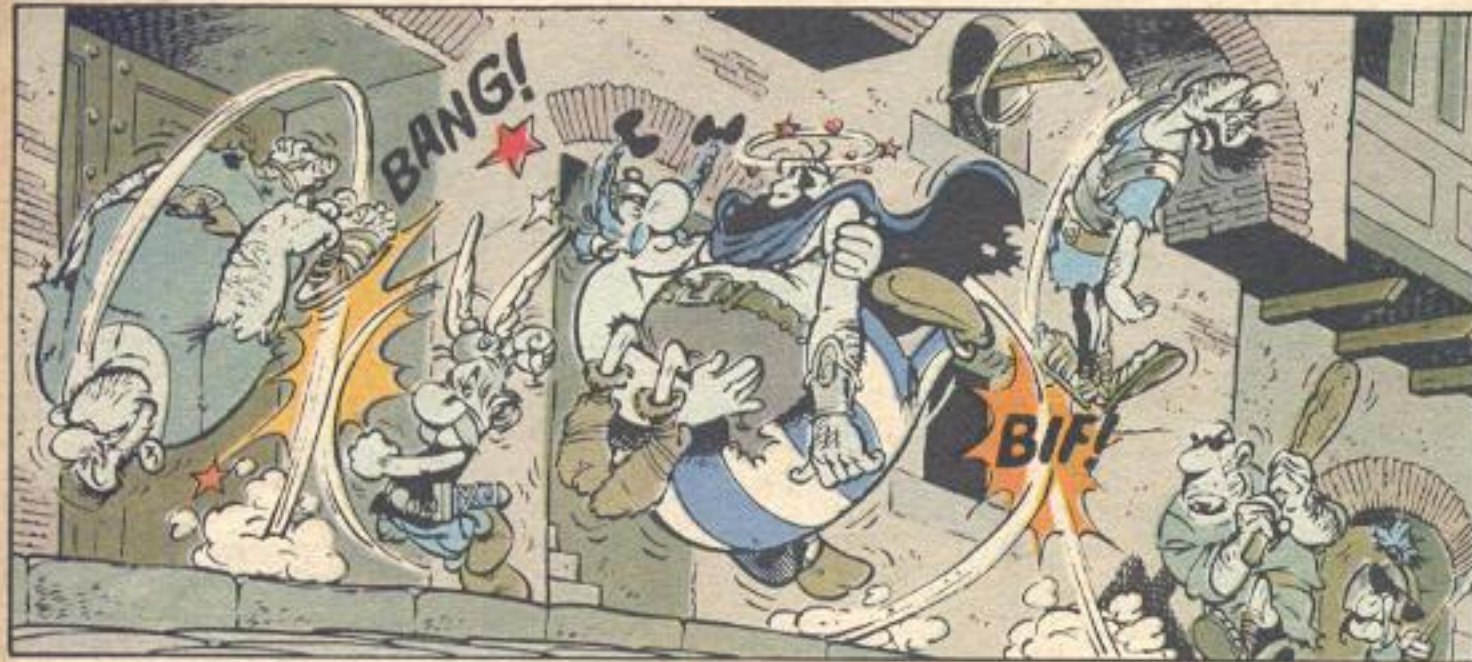
AT NIGHT THE ROMAN STREETS, INADEQUATELY PATROLLED BY THE SEBACIARIA (NIGHT WATCHMEN) ARE THE HUNTING GROUND OF SICARII, EFFRACTORES AND RAPTORES, MURDERERS, THIEVES AND MUGGERS OF ALL KINDS.

BY ALL THAT'S UNHOLY!  
HERE ARE TWO FINE FELLOWS  
SLEEPING OFF THEIR BOOZE!  
LET'S LIGHTEN THEIR  
PURSES!

**DO YOU  
ROMANS  
NEVER SLEEP?!**

**BIF!**







AFTER A PEACEFUL DAY, NIGHT HAS FALLEN ONCE MORE ON THE GREATEST CITY IN THE UNIVERSE, AND SHADOWNY FIGURES CREEP ALONG THE NARROW STREETS.



DIDO, DIDO, GIVE ME YOUR ANSWER, DO... HIC!... THERE'S AN OLD MOLA BY THE FLUMEN... HAEC! THE BELLS OF HADES GO TING-A-LING-A-... HOC!!



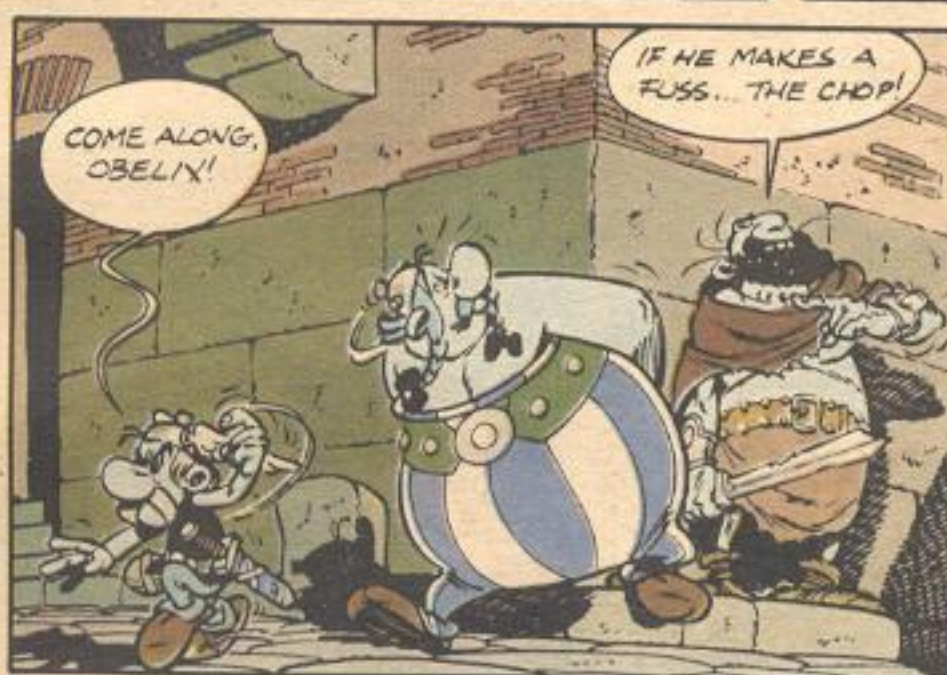
A DRUNK, FULL OF WINE AND GOLD! I'LL LEAVE HIM TO YOU TO SEE HOW YOU PERFORM.

RIGHT!



COME ALONG, OBELIX!

IF HE MAKES A FUSS... THE CHOP!

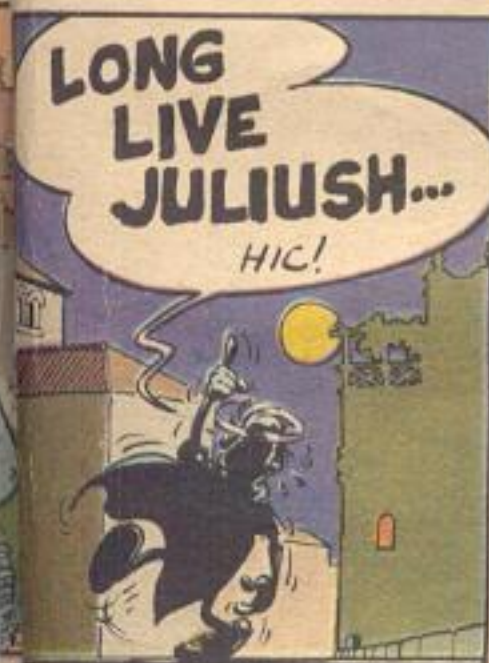


WE'RE NOT REALLY GOING TO GIVE HIM THE CHOP, ARE WE, ASTERIX?

OF COURSE NOT! ON THE CONTRARY WE'RE GOING TO SAVE HIM FROM THESE THUGS WATCH OUT, HERE HE COMES...



LONG LIVE JULIUSH... HIC!



...CHAESHAR!

GO HOME, QUICKLY! YOU'RE IN GREAT DANGER! YOU...



METATARSUS! THE SON OF HUMERUS!

OUR COLLECTOR'S ITEMS! OUR WORKS OF ART FROM THE HOUSE OF TYPHUS!



QUICK! BEAT IT!

NOT ON YOUR LIFE! WE'LL NEVER PART AGAIN! I'LL DRINK TO THAT!



MY COLLECTOR'S ITEMS! MY OWN LITTLE WORKS OF ART! HIC!

WELL, HOW'S IT GOING? HE'LL ATTRACT THE SEBACIARA WITH ALL THAT ROW!

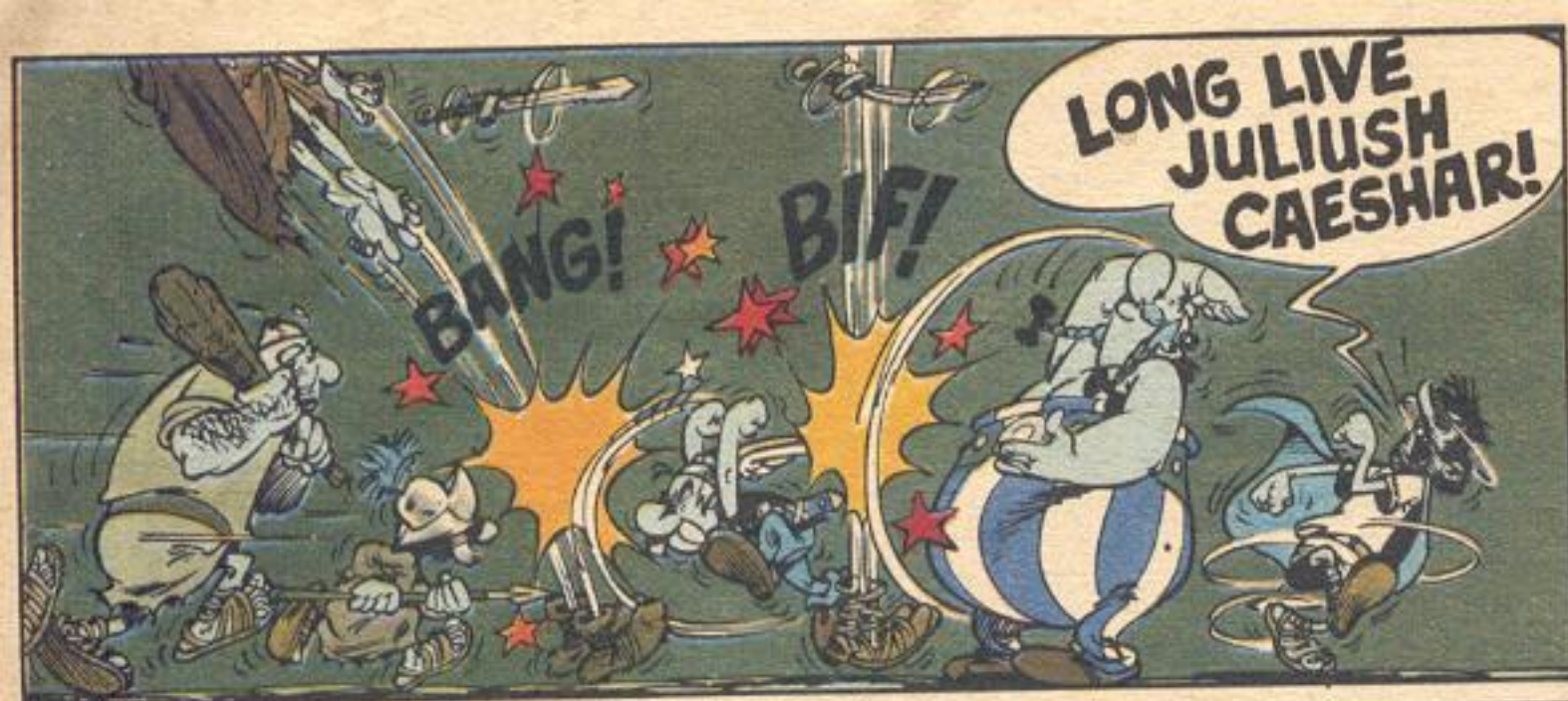


HE'S A FRIEND. NOBODY'S GOING TO HARM HIM!

WE'LL SOON SEE ABOUT THAT!







LONG LIVE  
JULIUSH  
CAESHAR!

SOON  
AFTER-  
WARDS...

RIGHT, OFF YOU GO  
HOME, NOW. WHY DID  
YOU GET YOURSELF INTO  
SUCH A STATE, ANYWAY?

TO CELEBRATE THE  
RETURN OF JULIUS  
CAESAR!



JULIUS  
CAESAR?

HE HAS RETURNED  
VICTORIOUS FROM HIS  
CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE  
PIRATES... TOMORROW  
THERE'S TO BE A TRIUMPH  
IN THE STREETS OF  
ROME!



ARE YOU  
SURE?

SURE I'M SURE! GOLDENDELICIOUS  
TOLD ME, HE'S GOT HIS EAR  
TO THE GROUND, HAS OLD  
GOLDENDE...  
GOLDENDEWHATISNAME.



AFTER HE DENOUNCED YOU, THEY MADE  
HIM PERSONAL SLAVE TO JULIUS CAESAR  
AS A REWARD!

AH! AND  
WHERE IS  
GOLDENDELICIOUS  
NOW?



HE STAYED ON IN THAT BAR  
OVER THERE, BUT WATCH OUT,  
HE'S AB-SO-LUTE-LY  
BLOTTO!



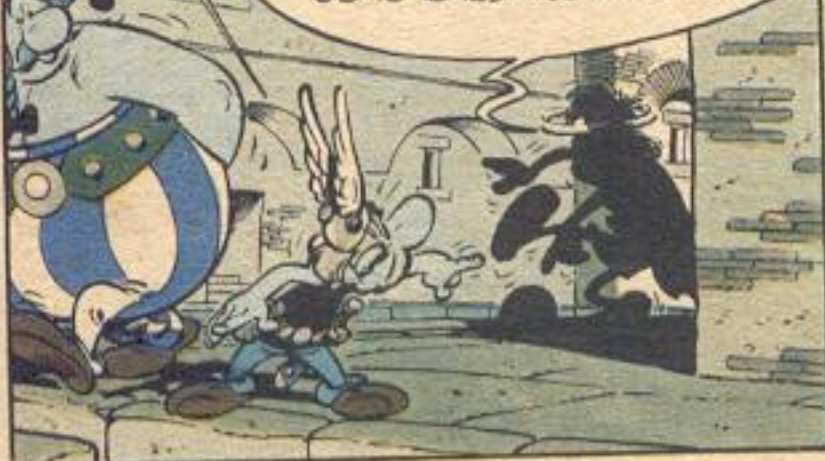
LET'S  
GO!

GOOD IDEA!  
LET'S GO!



NOT YOU!  
YOU GO HOME!

AT LEAST GIVE ME THE RECIPE  
OF THAT FANTASTIC DISH! I THINK  
I MIGHT BE ILL TOMORROW, AND  
THEN I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO  
GO TO CAESAR'S TRIUMPH...



RIGHT, LISTEN  
CAREFULLY, AN  
UNPLUCKED CHICKEN,  
SOME CARBOLIX SOAP,  
KIDNEYS...









I WAS AFRAID YOU'D TAKE MY PLACE. THAT'S WHY I DENOUNCED YOU, BUT I'M VERY SORRY, YES, I REALLY AM, VERY SORRY! YOU DON'T KNOW HOW SORRY I AM!

I HEAR YOU ARE VERY CLOSE TO CAESAR NOW?

NOT HALF! TOMORROW I SHALL RIDE IN HIS CHARIOT AT HIS TRIUMPH!

IN HIS CHARIOT?

WHENEVER THERE'S A TRIUMPH, ONE SLAVE HAS THE JOB OF HOLDING THE LAUREL WREATH ABOVE CAESAR'S HEAD. TOMORROW THAT SLAVE WILL BE ME!

**CAESAR'S LAUREL WREATH! THAT'S WONDERFUL, BY TOUTATIS!**

YOU'RE TELLING ME! FOR A SLAVE IT'S THE CROWNING GLORY! NOW I'M A COLLECTOR'S ITEM TOO!

LANDLORD, DO YOU HAVE ANY BAY LEAVES?

NO, BUT I'VE GOT SOME PARSLEY.

THAT'LL DO. BRING IT HERE, QUICK!

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO TAKE MY PLACE, ARE YOU?

**NO! IT'S THAT LAUREL WREATH WE WANT! WE'LL DO A SWAP!**

**I'M GOING TO TELL YOU WHAT TO DO TOMORROW. IF YOU WANT TO SEE TOMORROW, THAT IS.**

I... I DON'T FEEL TOO GOOD... I'VE HAD A DROP TOO MUCH... NOW I THINK ABOUT IT, I DON'T KNOW THAT I'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE THE TRIUMPH TOMORROW.

LANDLORD! I'VE GOT UP AN UNLUCKY CHICKEN, SOME CARBOLIX SOAP, JAM, BLACK PEPPERCORNS, SALT, KIDNEYS, FIGS, HONEY, BLACK PUDDING, POMEGRANATE SEEDS, EGGS AND RED PEPPERS!

SHALL I PUT THE PARSLEY IN?

NO! WE'RE GOING TO MAKE WREATHS WITH THAT PARSLEY, AREN'T WE, OBELIX?

**FERPECTLY RIGHT!**

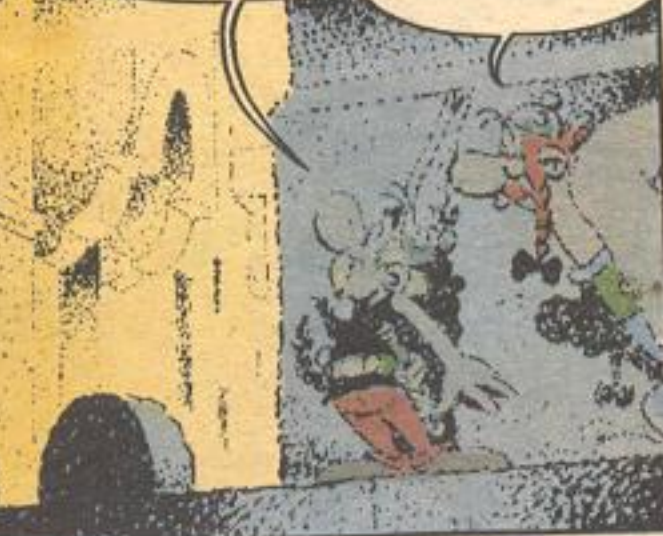


DAWN, IN A NARROW STREET NEAR  
CAESAR'S PALACE...

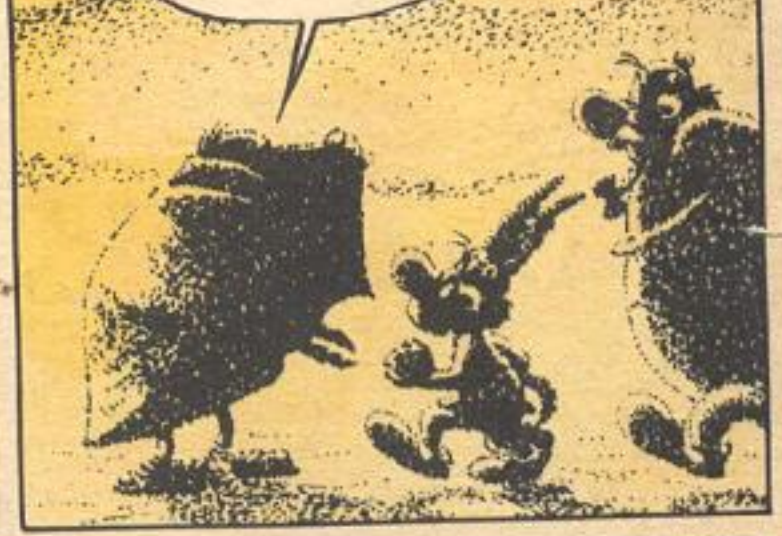


HERE HE COMES!

YOUR POTION IS  
ABSOLUTELY  
MARVELLOUS!



TAKE IT-  
QUICK!



**CAESAR'S  
LAUREL  
WREATH!**



DON'T FORGET THE PARSLEY  
WREATH!

IT'S A DEAL?  
I'LL NEVER  
HEAR FROM  
YOU AGAIN?



**I PROMISE YOU  
THAT, BY TOUTATIS!**

IT IS QUITE A GOOD TRIUMPH, AS TRIUMPHS GO...  
THE BOOTY ISN'T ANYTHING SPECIAL, BUT THE  
PRISONERS ARE PICTURESQUE...



**TANTANTARA!  
PARP!**

TWEET  
TWEET!



SO THAT'S WHAT YOU  
MEANT WHEN YOU SAID  
YOU'D LEAD US TO A  
GREAT TRIUMPH!

AND THE ACCLAMATIONS ARE SO DEAFENING, AND  
THE ENTHUSIASM SO GREAT, THAT NO ONE  
NOTICES THAT CAESAR'S WREATH IS NOT MADE OF  
LAUREL...



**LONG LIVE  
CAESAR!**

**CAESAR!**

**CAESAR!**

**LONG LIVE  
JULIUS CAESAR!**



NO ONE? WELL, HARDLY ANYONE... FOR  
NOTHING CAN BE HIDDEN FROM THAT  
GREAT MAN AMONG GREAT MEN, THAT  
WOLF, SON OF THE ROMAN SHE-WOLF...



THAT'S FUNNY... I FEEL LIKE  
A PIECE OF FISH!



WELL, HOMEOPATHIX,  
HOW DO YOU LIKE  
THE TASTE OF  
CAESAR'S LAURELS?



YOU MAY BE RICH, BUT  
I BET YOU NEVER EAT  
ANYTHING LIKE THAT IN  
YOUR HOUSE!



TRUE... IT'S A BIT  
OVERCOOKED, AND IT WASN'T A  
PRIME CUT OF MEAT...



AND SO, IN THE GAULISH VILLAGE, UNDER A  
STARRY SKY, THEY CELEBRATE THE SUCCESS OF  
THIS EXTRAORDINARY DISH. BUT THE ADVENTURE  
OF ASTERIX AND OBELIX WAS TO HAVE CONSEQUENCES  
AS SERIOUS AS THEY WERE UNEXPECTED, FROM NOW  
ON, HAVING THE RECIPE FOR A REMEDY AGAINST  
THE EXCESSES OF DRINKING, THE ROMANS BEGAN  
TO INDULGE IN ORGIES OF WINE, WHICH LED TO  
THE DECLINE AND FALL OF THEIR EMPIRE. BE  
WARNED! ALCOHOL, UNLESS TAKEN IN MODERATION,  
IS THE FATHER OF ALL VICES... PERFECTLY TRUE!



THE END

DO YOU  
SING AS WELL