Asterix and the Normans
by Goscinny and Uderzo
WATCH OUT!
BY TOUTATIS!
HE'S CRAZY!
CLUCK CLUCK YELP YELP YELP

I SHALL THROW THE ARMS AND ARMOUR FIRM'S MAIL ORDER CATALOGUE AT HIM IF HE DOESN'T LOOK OUT!
SCREEECH!

HI UNCLE! I'M YOUR NEPHEW JUSTFORKIX!

ER...VERY NICE TO SEE YOU, JUSTFORKIX... LET ME INTRODUCE ASTERIX AND OBELEX...

I'VE NEVER SEEN A CHARIOT LIKE THAT BEFORE...

NO, YOU WOULDN'T GET MANY OF THESE AROUND HERE... IT'S A SPORTS CHARIOT MADE IN MEDIOLANUM...

RIGHT, LET'S START.
START WHAT?

START MAKING A MAN OF HIM, OF COURSE! THE WAY TO START MAKING A MAN OF HIM IS TO START THUMPING HIM!

NO, NO, THAT'S NOT THE WAY.

OH AND JUST HOW DOES MISTER ASTERIX THINK WE'RE GOING TO START MAKING A MAN OF HIM IF WE DON'T START THUMPING HIM SO AS TO START MAKING A MAN OF HIM?
WE WANT HIM TO TRUST US!

WE'RE GOING TO HOLD A BALL IN YOUR HONOUR, JUSTFORKIX!
YOU PEASANTS DANCE OUT HERE IN THE STYX?!

HOW QUAIN?

YOU KNOW, OBELEX, I'M NOT SURE YOU WEREN'T RIGHT ABOUT THUMPING HIM!

SEE?
WOOF!

GLORIOUS CLASSICAL ALLUSION
YES, WE'LL HAVE A BALL FOR MY NEPHEW... THAT'S A GOOD NOTION, ASTERIX.

I'M NOT SURE HE APPRECIATES...

YOUR FIRST BALL, DOGMATIX! IT'S A GREAT OCCASION!

YOU CAN PLAY BUT YOU CAN'T SING. IF YOU SING I SHALL BASH YOU!

IGNORAMUS.

WHAT WAS THAT?

UROGH!

OH, I THOUGHT YOU SPOKE...

LET'S Trip THE LIGHT FANTASTIX COMING?

YOU TWO GO, I WANT TO WATCH.

YOU'LL ASK A GIRL TO DANCE FOR ME, WONT YOU, ASTERIX?

MAY MY FRIEND AND I HAVE THE PLEASURE OF THIS DANCE?

TEEHEEHEE!

OoOOh, I SAY!

NO! NO! NO! OLD-TIME DANCING MAY BE ALL RIGHT FOR GOLDEN OLDIES, BUT LET ME SHOW YOU WHAT WE GET UP TO IN THE CATACOMBS OF LUTETIA THESE DAYS!

BONG! BONG!

Woo! Woof!

THE ROLLING MENHIRS!

?
HEY, OBELIX, DID YOU SEE TH... PLOINK! PLINK!

OBELIX?!

SURELY A MENHIR MAKER'S ENTITLED TO A BIT OF ROCK, ASTERIX...

ANYWAY, WE MUST KEEP UP WITH ANCIENT TIMES!

STOP IT! THIS IS TOO MUCH! WE'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOUR BARBARIC RHYTHM! LET'S GET BACK TO OUR GOOD OLD TRADITIONAL FOLKSONGS.

WITH ASTERIX, OBELIX, VITALSTATISTIX AND ALL...

COME ON, LET'S GO! I'VE GOT A MENHIR TO FINISH...

MUMMY EXPECTS ME HOME!

SAY, YOU'RE GREAT! YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TIME HERE. YOU'D GO DOWN MUCH BETTER IN LUTETIA AT THE PALACE OF VARIETIX... AUDIENCES DON'T STRIKE THERE!

YOU THINK I'D MAKE A HIT IN LUTETIA?
While all this is going on in Gaul, let us travel far away, to the northern lands where winters are hard and the night lasts for months on end. Lands inhabited by the Norsemen, or Normans, as the people of Gaul knew them. They are great conquerors...

And they do not know the meaning of fear!

If you don’t finish your nice cream soup the children will come and eat you up!

By Thor, that’s a laugh!

And it is practically impossible to cure hiccups...

Have you or have you not finished miccuping?

Hic! No, hic! Why do you ask?

And it is a nuisance, since not only are the children not scared of trolls, but as fear of the authorities encourages prudence, Norse roads are far from safe...

What do you mean by it, trying to pass a four-reindeer-power police chariot on the top of a hill??

So what’s mine’s a Norse-drawn chariot!

So Chief Olaf Timandahaf assembles his men...

We can’t go on like this! Even the weakest of nations know about fear and being frightened... but not us!

We pride ourselves on knowing everything!

But listen, O Timandahaf, what use is this thing fear that we don’t understand?

And we pride ourselves on knowing every thing!

I’ve heard that fear lends you wings, by Odin. Once we can fly like birds we’ll stick at nothing.

By Thor!

By Odin!

By gum...
YOU'VE GOT NO RIGHT TO MAKE ME GET UP SO EARLY! I'M SUPPOSED TO BE ON HOLIDAY.

SO YOU ARE! WE'RE GOING DOWN TO THE BEACH!

THE BEACH? BUT IT'S RAINING!

IT MIGHT BE RAIN IN THE SOUTH... HERE IT'S JUST A LITTLE BRACING DAMPNESS IN THE AIR...

AND GETTING MORE BRACING ALL THE TIME!

COME ON, LET'S HAVE A RACE! LAST MAN TO THE ROCK IS JULIUS CAESAR!

READY... STEADY...

WHOOSH!

GO!

WE'VE WON!

IT DOESN'T COUNT! YOU CHEATED, BOTH OF YOU!

OH YES, IT DOES COUNT! BUT OF COURSE MISTER ASTERIX DOESN'T LIKE LOSING!

WOF! WOF!

WELL, NEVER MIND. HE'S JULIUS CAESAR!

I WONDER WHAT WOULD INTEREST HIM...

WHO CARES? WE'RE OFF TO LOOK FOR OYSTERS!

LISTEN, JUST FOR KIX!

OH... OOH... OOOOH!

IS THIS SOME NEW LUTETIAN DANCE OF YOURS?
See that ship? Over there!

So there's a ship over there! What about it?

It's a Norse longship! The Normans are terrible! A lot of bloodthirsty pirates.

Oh, you think so? Well, don't get so worked up. We'll go and tell the others back in the village...

Oh, glad to see you, Obelix... see that sail over there?

He says they're pirates...

Scratch! Scratch!

No, no, Obelix! Come back! We must go and tell the others!

But what about the pirates over there?

That's why we have to go back to the village!

What's the good of living by the seaside if you never get any fun out of it?

They're coming! They're coming!

These Lutetians are crazy! They start running after the race is over... well, I'm not running any more! I feel a bit heavy after eating so many dozens of oysters.

Obelix, I've told you before... oysters are like nuts, you only eat the inside.

Personally I eat nuts shell and all, the same way I eat oysters.
THE NOR... THE NOR... THE NORM...

OH, I WAS LOOKING FOR YOU. I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THE HIT I MIGHT MAKE IN LUTE...

CLUCK

CLU... EEK!

WE'RE OFF TO SEE THE CHIEF ABOUT IT. JUST FORKIX WILL BE THERE BY NOW.

GOOD, I WANT TO ASK HIM ABOUT THE PALACE OF VARIETIX

SOON AFTERWARDS.

I'LL GO AND SEE WHAT THE NORMANS ARE DOING. IF THEY'RE LANDING, WE THROW THEM BACK INTO THE SEA.

DO YOU THINK THEY'LL LAND, ASTERIX? HEY, DO YOU REALLY THINK SO?

PSST... I WANT A WORD WITH YOU...

WELL, NORMANS APART, DO YOU LIKE IT HERE? NOT FEELING HOMESICK?

LISTEN, DO YOU KNOW WHO THE NORMANS ARE?

OF COURSE! THEY'RE FIERCE FIGHTERS, AND LIKE US THEY DON'T KNOW THE MEANING OF FEAR!

WE MAY LIVE IN THE PROVINCES, MY BOY, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN WE'RE OUT OF TOUCH.

CRAZY! THEY'RE ALL CRAZY!

RIGHT, CAN WE HAVE A TALK ABOUT MY FUTURE NOW?
See the conquering Normans come!!

Let's get back to the beach and see what the Normans are doing.

How about tricking them into landing, Asterix? How about it, eh?

But there is no need for any tricks to the sound of their savage war cries. The Norman conquerors are landing in Gaul!

Well pitch camp on this beach! Start digging holes for the tent pegs. I want every Norm to fulfill his norm!

Psychopath! Epitaph! Cenotaph! Chiefcafe! Neeceafy! Get down to work!

Hahahahah!!

Sch, Obelix!

But our chief said we were going to throw them back in the sea if...

No, he told us to tell him what they were doing!

Meanwhile...

Look, justforkix, why don't you go back to the beach and have fun instead of hanging about here?

Because—there— are—no—Normans on the beach!

O chief Vitalstatistix, the Normans are landing!

AAAAAah!

...and they've got ever such funny names... teehee! They all end in vaf!!

That's right! Their chief is called Timandahap!

Ha, ha, ha! Did you hear that, Getafix, Cacophonix, Operatix, Acoustix, Polyphonix, Harmonix?

Hoho! Hoho!

Crazy! They're crazy. I'd better warn the others there must be someone sane among this lot!
COME HERE, ALL OF YOU! LISTEN TO ME! COME HERE!

IT'S A NORMANDY LANDING! THEY'RE GOING TO PUT US ALL TO FIRE AND THE SWORD! THERE ARE LOTS AND LOTS AND LOTS OF THEM! IT'S GOING TO BE A NORMAN CONQUEST!

WHAT'S HE ON ABOUT?

IT MUST BE SOME SORT OF LUTETIAN CUSTOM.

THE THING IS, I'VE GOT A BOAR COOKING.

NORMANS? ATTACKING!

LET ME BY, WILL YOU?

STOP PUSHING!

THEY'VE GOT THE MESSAGE AT LAST... THEY'RE PANICKING! WELL, THAT'S NORMAL WHEN THE NORMANS ATTACK! WE'LL ESCAPE TOGETHER!

WAIT A MINUTE...?

WHERE DO WE BOOK OUR NORMANS?

IF THERE'S GOING TO BE A FIGHT I WANT MY SHARE!

I WISH TO MAKE A RESERVATION! LAST TIME WE FOUGHT THE ROMANS I DIDN'T GET A SINGLE ONE!

CALM DOWN! CALM DOWN, DG! I'M NOT TOO PLEASED THE NORMANS ARE HERE, BUT WE DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY WANT YET... IF THERE'S GOING TO BE A FIGHT YOU'LL ALL BE INFORMED IN GOOD TIME... SO NOW GO HOME, WOULD YOU?

AND NOW THINGS ARE A LITTLE QUIETER, HOW ABOUT THE HIT I'D MAKE IN LUTETIA...?
IN THE NORMAN CAMP, OLAUF TIMANDAHF IS JUST FINISHING A SOUP IN CREAM SAUCE.

NESSAF, I WANT YOU TO GO SCOUTING... SPY OUT THE LAND. SEE WHAT SORT OF PEOPLE THESE GAULS ARE!

RIGHT, O CHIEF TIMANDAHF!

OUR VOYAGES ARE VERY EDUCATIONAL... WE LEARN ABOUT THE NATIVES BEFORE WE SLAUGHTER THEM.

I THINK I'LL HIDE IN THIS FOREST.

I'LL BE ALL RIGHT HERE... HULLO, THERE'S SOMEONE COMING...

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE NORMANS ARE GOING TO DO, ASTERIX?

WHO CARES? THEY WON'T SCARE US... WE DON'T KNOW THE MEANING OF FEAR! WE'VE NEVER BEEN FRIGHTENED OF ANYONE YET!

OH NO! WE'VE COME ALL THIS WAY FOR NOTHING...

HULLO, JUSTFORKIX! COMING TO HUNT BOAR HEREABOUTS?

HOW DO YOU LUTETIANS HUNT BOAR HEREABOUTS?

WE JUST THUMP THEM AND THEN...

NO, I WANT TO ASK YOU A FAVOUR... LOOK, THE CLIMATE HERE DOESN'T AGREE WITH ME TOO WELL. WILL YOU HELP ME PERSUADE MY UNCLE TO LET ME GO HOME TO LUTETIA?

YOU'RE FRIGHTENED OF THE NORMANS, AREN'T YOU?

YEEEEEES! I'M SO FRIGHTENED! I'M MORE FRIGHTENED THAN ANYONE ELSE IN THE WORLD!

BOOOOOOOOO!

YOU MUSTN'T BE FRIGHTENED, JUSTFORKIX... HAVE NO FEAR, WE'RE WITH YOU... NOW, YOU CAN'T BE FRIGHTENED WITH US HERE, CAN YOU?

SNIFF! NO, I DON'T FEEL SO FRIGHTENED NOW...

SPOILSPORT!
Timandahaf is just finishing his rel in cream sauci...

Oh, so you're back, Nescaf. What news?

I've been listening to some of the Gaurs—they don't know the meaning of fear either.

What? You mean we've come all this way for no good reason?

I've a good mind to put us all to the sword... maybe we'll learn the reason—fear—at Odin's feast! Since these Gaurs are so ignorant!

They do as good a sole* as we could get from our own ice floes, though...

Any way, don't book our table yet. I did here one Gaul boast he was an expert on fear...

A real professional, by Thor! That's what we need!

The only thing is, when he's with the other Gaurs he isn't so frightened.

Get an expeditionary force together! We must capture him and shield him from the debilitating influence of his friends!

Fear will lend us winds, and we'll soon be airborne... have a little skull Nescaf?

I won't say no. Let's put our heads together.

Meanwhile, in the Gaurs village...

What, just when the real fun's starting? Oh, don't go, just for kix! You'll learn how to fight! We Gaurs never give quarter!

I promise you there won't be any Gaurs quarter!

Know, but there's a Latin quarter and I'd like to get back to it!
YOU'RE QUITE SURE, JUSTFORKIX? MUST YOU REALLY GO?

WAIT A MINUTE, JUSTFORKIX! I'VE GOT A LITTLE PRESENT FOR YOU!

A PRESENT FROM ARMORICA

WELL, IT'S A PITY... YOUR FATHER WANTED ME TO TOUGHER YOU UP A BIT... RUB THE CORNERS OFF YOU...

I WISH I COULD GO TO LUTETIA TOO...

CORNERS... CORNERS... HUH! CAN CUT A FEW CORNERS MYSELF!

CRAAAACK!

BOTHER THAT MENHIR! IT'S GONE AND BROKEN THE AXLE... I'M IN A TIGHT CORNER NOW! THE TROUBLE WITH THESE FOREIGN CHARIOTS IS GETTING SPARE PARTS...

AND CLOSE AT HAND, WHAT A BIT OF LUCK! IT'S THE MAN WHO KNOWS THE MEANING OF FEAR! WE MUST GRAB HIM BEFORE HE FLIES AWAY!

NOW REMEMBER, EVERYONE, THE CHIEF SAID TO BRING HIM BACK ALIVE!

ALL THESE LITTLE SUBTLETIES!
BY THOR! BY ODIN!

OH MY GODS! THE NORMANS!

LEAVE ME ALONE! LEAVE ME ALONE, OR ASTERIX AND OBELIX WILL GET YOU!

ASTERIX? OBELIX? WHO ARE THEY?

THEY'RE VERY FIERCE! EVERYONE TREMBLES BEFORE THEM!

TREMBLES?

PEOPLE TREMBLE WHEN THEY'RE COLD!

OR WHEN THEY GET MARSH FEVER IN THE SUMMER.

NO, NO, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! PEOPLE TREMBLE WHEN THEY'RE FRIGHTENED! LOOK AT ME! I'M FRIGHTENED, AND...

QUICK! HE'S GOING TO FLY AWAY!

MERCY!

MERCY?

WHAT'S THAT?

MERCY? OH, NEVER MIND! IT'S ANOTHER OF THESE NEW INVENTIONS. BASH HIM OVER THE HEAD, BUT...

NOT TOO HARD!

A PRESENT FROM

I HOPE YOU HAVEN'T CRACKED HIS SKULL... THE CHIEF DOESN'T LIKE CHIPPED GLASSES.

NO, WE DON'T WANT HIM ANY THE WORSE FOR LIQUOR.

WHEN I BASH SOMEONE, I BASH THEM!

PAFF!

A PRESENT FROM A PRESENT FROM A PRESENT FROM A PRESENT FROM
IT'S A PITY JUSTFORKIX HAS LEFT... HE WAS SO FUNNY!

WELL, HE WOULDN'T STAY... SO ON HIS OWN HEAD BE IT... LET'S GO AND HUNT SOME BOAR IN THE FOREST THAT'LL CHEER YOU UP.

I DO LIKE IT IN THE WILD... WE MIGHT FIND BOARS, ROMANS, MUSHROOMS, MAYBE EVEN NORMANS...

I TELL YOU WHAT, IF WE FIND ANY BOARS, ROMANS OR NORMANS WE KNOCK THEM ON THE HEAD, IF WE FIND ANY MUSHROOMS WE...

LOOK, DOGMATIX HAS STOPPED! HE'S PICKED UP A SCENT!

RIGHT. IF IT'S A BOAR, WE'LL SHARE IT, IF IT'S A ROMAN OR A NORMAN YOU CAN LEAVE IT TO ME, IF IT'S A MUSHROOM I'LL LEAVE IT TO...

OH!

JUST FORKIX'S CHARIOT!

ISN'T DOGMATIX MARVELLOUS? I TAUGHT HIM TO PICK UP THE SCENT OF A MENHIR, SO HE'D MADE A GOOD HOUND...

I THOUGHT I'D START WITH MENHIRS BECAUSE THEY DON'T MOVE AS FAST AS RABBITS...

THE AXLE'S BROKEN...

FLIMSY, I CALL IT... IT MAY BE FAST, BUT IT'S FLIMSY. PUT ONE TINY LITTLE MENHIR IN IT AND SOMETHING BREAKS!

I CAN'T SEE JUSTFORKIX GOING OFF INTO THE FOREST ALONE...

I'M AFRAID THE NORMANS MAY HAVE KIDNAPPED JUSTFORKIX!

LET'S TELL THE CHIEF WHAT'S HAPPENED!

YOU MEAN THEY WANTED A SOUVENIR, THEY FOUND JUSTFORKIX AND MY MENHIR AND THEY TOOK JUSTFORKIX? THESE NORMANS ARE CRAZY!
In the Norman camp, where Timandahaf is just finishing a chicken in cream sauce...

We got him, O Timandahaf!

By Odin! Let's go and see him right away, O Nescafé!

He doesn't look too good, Nescafé!

We clubbed him to stop him flying away, the way we club birds... not very tough, this Gallish riffraff!

Coming!

No, no one wants you, riffraff!

Right, bring him round. Come here, all! Make haste!

Hasting's the word...

Surely it's not 1066 yet?

Who... what...? Help!

By Toutatis, this is the end of me! All these Normans... so many of them! They look so fierce... Help! They're going to kill me... Their chef is coming towards me...

Go on, then! Frighten us!
WE'RE GETTING CLOSE TO THE NORMAN CAMP... IF THEY TRY TO STOP US WE JUST WADE INTO THEM AND EXPLAIN LATER, RIGHT?

VERY CUNNING. COULDN'T HAVE THOUGHT OF A MORE SUBLT PLAN MYSELF...

HALT! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, GAULS?

WE WANT TO SEE YOUR CHIEF AND...

HOLD ON A MINUTE! YOU SAID WE'D JUST WADE INTO THEM AND EXPLAIN LATER!

BUT I HAVE TO TELL THEM WHY WE'RE HERE, THEN MAYBE WE WON'T HAVE TO WADE INTO THEM!

WELL, I WON'T STAND FOR IT! A PLAN IS A PLAN! I AGREED TO YOUR PLAN IN EVERY DETAIL, AND...

OBELIX, YOU'RE GETTING ON MY NERVES!

COME HERE, EVERYONE! HERE'S A SPOT OF GAULISH CUISINE FOR ODIN'S FEAST!

BY THOR!

BY ODIN!

CHARGE!

RIGHT, NOW WE CAN WADE INTO THEM!

I SHOULD THINK SO TOO!

I KNEW YOU'D SEE SENSE IN THE END!

DON'T LET'S ARGUE IN PUBLIC, OBELIX!
YOU'RE IN THE ARMY NOW! IT'S TIME YOU LEARNT OBEY ORDERS! WE KNOW HOW THE LAND LIES AND WE'RE GOING BACK TO CAMP TO TELL OUR SUPERIOR OFFICERS!!!
HULLO, IS THE PATROL BACK ALREADY?

ER... YES, CENTURION... I WAS JUST ABOUT TO WRITE THE REPORT...

IN TRIPPLICATE!

LEGIONARY OLEAGINUS REPORTING, CENTURION! THERE'S SOME FIGHTING ON THE BEACHES!

WELL, LADS, WE'RE HERE TO KEEP THE PEACE, BY JUPITER... SO BACK YOU GO TO THAT BEACH AND KEEP IT!

CASTOR ACER, AREN'T YOU?

*EAGER BEAVER. BUT DESPITE THE CASTOR ACTION FAVOURED BY OLEAGINUS, AMERICAN CAMPAIGNS SOMETIMES WENT ON OILED WHEELS.*

BUT WHEN I JOINED UP, I WAS TOLD...

YOU HAVEN'T MET THE MADMEN WHO LIVE IN THESE PARTS YET...

THEY... THEY SEEM SO BUSY ONE HARDLY LIKES TO BOTHER THEM...

CHAC! POC! TCHOC!

STILL, HERE GOES...

WELL DONE, DECURION! WE'RE RIGHT BEHIND YOU!

WE'RE ALL WITH YOU...

IN SPIRIT!

WOULD YOU KINDLY...

CAN'T YOU SEE WE'RE BUSY? WAIT IN THE QUEUE!

TCHOC!
COME ON, MEN! THEY'RE ATTACKING OUR DECISION!

HE'S NUTS!

THEY'LL LET JUST ANYONE JOIN THE ARMY THESE DAYS!

CHARRR!

TONK! TONK!

PAF! PAF!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY TELLING AND GETTING IN PEOPLE'S WAY LIKE THAT? WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY IT EH?

OH, WOULD YOU LIKE A GO!

OO, CAN I REALLY?

FAIR SHARES! WE'LL SPLIT HIM DOWN THE MIDDLE.

POC!

VERY GOOD OF YOU!

THANKS TO THESE TIMELY REMONSTRANCES. THE BATTLE RAGES HARDER THAN EVER...

LEAVE US ALONE! LEAVE US ALONE!

WE'VE COME TO SETTLE YOUR QUARREL!

WE'RE A PEACE-KEEPING FORCE... WHY CLUB TOGETHER AGAINST US?

BY ODIN, WHAT'S ALL THIS NOISE ABOUT? CAN'T A CHIEF EAT HIS BOAR IN CREAM SAUCE IN PEACE?

BOAR IN CREAM SAUCE?
WHO ARE YOU, BY THOR, AND WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH CARAF?

HEAR THAT, ASTERIX? MINE'S CALLED CARAF, WHAT ABOUT YOURS?

NO IDEA... WE HAVEN'T BEEN INTRODUCED.

BY ODIN, LET GO OF TELEGRAF AT ONCE, WILL YOU?

TELEGRAF, EH? PLEASED TO MEET YOU.

WHO ARE YOU?

MORE TO THE POINT, WHO ARE YOU?

I AM TIMANDAHAF THE CONQUEROR, CHIEF OF THE NORMANS!

SUCH FUNNY NAMES! HMMM... HEHEHE!

WILL-YOU-KINDLY-TELL-ME-WHAT-YOU-WANT?

YES, HOW DO YOU MAKE THAT BOAR IN CREAM SAUCE?

WELL, IT'S JUST LIKE MAKING STRAWBERRIES AND CREAM, only instead of strawberries you first catch your boar, then...

Look, you didn't come here and attack the fiercest warriors of the known world just to swap recipes, did you?!!

No, we've got something more important to ask you.

RIGHT, COME INTO MY TENT, STOP MAKING ALL THAT NOISE, YOU LOT!

GOOD... WE WON'T KEEP YOU ANY LONGER, WE'RE OFF...

WE REALLY MUST BE GOING...

WERE DUE FOR SOME GAULISH LEAVE...

ALL GOOD THINGS COME TO AN END...

SSSH! DIDN'T YOU HEAR WHAT YOUR CHIEF SAID?

PAP! BING
Asterix, if you ask me, these Normans are...

Let me think a moment, Obelix.

If we teach you the meaning of fear, will you give us back our expert and teach us the meaning of fear, whether he likes it or not!

Yes, we didn’t come here to make war. We’ll leave that to our descendants a few centuries from now...

Well, we’ve got something in our village which will do the trick, but we’ll have to go and fetch it.

All right, but one of you stays here as a hostage!

And if the other one doesn’t come back we shall use the hostage’s skull for apple brandy!

Pssspspssspss!

But why must I go? You’ll have all the fun! You’ll get boar in cream gauge! It’s the thought of that apple brandy going to your head...

Stop arguing, Obelix. This isn’t the right moment.

Not the right moment! Not the right moment! It never is the right moment for Mister Asterix...

I’m landed with all the hard work...

Hoooowwwww!!! Hoooowwwell!!!

Everyone takes advantage of my weakness!

Craaaaaash!!!
HI, OBELEX!

HUUUH!

HEY, POLYTECHNIK, WHERE'S CACOPONIX? HE ISN'T AT HOME.

I'M GLAD TO SAY I HAVEN'T THE SLIGHTEST IDEA!

YOU'D BETTER GO AND ASK THE CHIEF, OBELEX.

HE'S LOOKING FOR THE BARD!

I THOUGHT HE WAS ACTING STRANGELY!

... AND IF I CAN'T FIND CACOPONIX, WHAT ABOUT ASTERIX AND JUSTJORKIX? WE CAN'T GIVE THE NORMANS THEIR HEADS! WE MUST DO SOMETHING!

BY TOUTATIS, LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT THE BARD'S HUT!

SOON AFTERWARDS.

I NEVER THOUGHT WE'D BE SORRY TO SEE THE BACK OF OUR BARD... BUT NOW HE'S THE KEY TO OUR TROUBLES, HE'S OFF!

OFF KEY, AS USUAL!

I'VE GOT AN IDEA!

YOU HAVE, OBELEX?

HE'S TAKEN ALL HIS MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS AND NEARLY ALL HIS CLOTHES... HE REALLY HAS LEFT!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, NEVER FEAR??!!

OBELIX IS SURE TO COME BACK, TIMANDAHAF, NEVER FEAR!

NEVER MIND, DOGMASTIX! I’LL TEACH YOU TO SNIFF OUT BARD'S AND YOU’LL GROW INTO A BIG STRONG DOGGIE...

PICKING THE ODD BOAR ALONG HIS WAY TO STILL THE PANGS OF HUNGER...

WHOA! THERE! CALM DOWN! STOP REARING! WHOA!

AND CASUALLY ELIMINATING SUCH ROMAN PATROLS AS ARE MISGUIDED ENOUGH TO CROSS HIS PATH.

NO POINT IN STOPPING HIM... SOL, LU CET OMMINUS, AS WE SAY AT HOME, LET'S GO BACK AND CARVE A REPORT IN TRIPlicate.

GETTING TO BE A REAL CHISELIER, AREN'T YOU?

WE MET A MAN MAKING SUCH AWFUL NOISES MY MILK STAMPED ON!

OH YES, I SAW A HORSEMAN GO BY. BUT THE WAY HE WAS SINGING HE CAN'T HAVE BEEN A BARD?

OH YES, HE CAME THIS WAY. THE MILK TURNED JUST THEN!

AND FURTHER ON... CACOFONIX'S HORSE! WE'VE FOUND HIM! YOU SEE, DOGMASTIX, THERE'S NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BARD'S AND MENHIRS!
Selfservix

CACOFONIX!
IT'S US!
YOYOO!

ER... DO YOU
HAPPEN TO HAVE
SEEN A BARD, MR...?
ER...

SELFSERVIX,
AT YOUR SERVICE...
YES, I'VE SEEN A
BARD ALL RIGHT, BY
TOUTATIS!

He couldn't pay for
the meal he ate, he suggested
ringing for his supper
once he started I told
him it was on
the house...

And my customers
even offered him another
meal to shut up... so
he got annoyed... and
now the house
is on me!

He left me his horse
as compensation...

Well, if
CACOFONIX is
going to pay his
way by singing
he won't get
far!

There he is!

CACOFONIX!
YOYOO! WAIT
FOR US!

HA! I KNEW
IT! THEY CAN'T
DO WITHOUT ME
IN THE VILLAGE.
TOO BAD! I'VE
GOT MY CAREER
TO THINK OF!
CACOFONIX, I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU TO...

THE ANSWER IS NO! YOU DON'T APPRECIATE MY ART! WELL, YOU CAN JUST DO WITHOUT ME, SO THERE! I'M GOING TO BE A HIT IN LUTETIA!

LISTEN, ASTERIX SENT ME! HE NEEDS YOU!

ASTERIX HAS NO MORE MUSICAL FEELING THAN ALL THE REST OF YOU, BUT HE'S A GOOD BIT CLEVERER. HE WON'T BE NEEDING ME!

...AND JUSTFORKIX IS IN DANGER!

JUSTFORKIX?

JUSTFORKIX? THAT DISCERNING YOUNG MAN IN TROUBLE?

YES, THE NORMANS ARE UP TO SOME KIND OF SKULDUGGERY.

OH, I SEE! YOU WANT ME TO SOOTHE THEIR SAVAGE BREASTS... VERY WELL, THEN! OFF WE GO!

I MIGHT AS WELL MAKE A TOUR OF THE PROVINCES BEFORE I HIT LUTETIA!

TAP! TAP! TAP!

THIS OLD MAN, HE PLAYED UNUM...

...ER...CACOFONIX... COULD WE DO WITHOUT A SONG? YOU SEE, IT'S THE SONG HE...

NO... NO... I WANTED MY SIREN SONG. I'M GOING TO SING AND THAT'S MY LAST WORD!

THIS OLD MAN, HE PLAYED DUX...

...COMES ALONG, BRAVE LITTLE DOGS DON'T CRY, DOGMATIX! YOU OBERIX TO BE PROUD OF YOU, DON'T YOU?

BOO HOO!

...ONE OF WHOM IS TURNING THE MILK BEFORE TURNING HIS AUDIENCE'S HEADS.

WATCH OUT! MY OXEN ARE BOLTING!

MOO!!!

VANDALS!

...THIS OLD MAN, HE PLAYED CENTUN QUINTIGINTA SEPTEM...
SHUT UP, BY THOR!

YOU'RE HAVING ME ON! I WON'T WAIT ANY LONGER! THE HOSTAGES WILL BE EXECUTED! SOMEONE GO AND GET THE GAULISH EXPERT OFF THE LONGSHIP!

LONSHIP?

ONE OF OUR VESSELS, WE CAN USE EITHER SAIL OR OARS.

I KNEW YOUR FAVOURITE SPORT WAS SCULLING!

PUT THIS ONE IN CHAINS AND TAKE THEM BOTH UP THE CLIFF!

SOMN AFTERWARDS...

I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S KEEPING OBLIX, BUT YOU MIGHT WAIT A LITTLE LONGER...

NO, I MIGHT NOT! YOU TWO HAVE A TABLE BOOKED FOR THE NEXT SITTING AT ODIN'S BANQUET.

BUT FIRST, IN THE CAUSE OF SCIENCE, YOU'RE GOING TO FLY OFF THIS CLIFF!

WOULDN'T YOU RATHER I GROVELLED AT YOUR FEET?

RIGHT, I WANT YOU TO FLY OVER THERE TO THE LEFT, AFTER THAT I WANT YOU TO...

DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE ROUTE. IT'S NON-STOP, DIRECT...

CHEER UP, JUSTFORKIX! SHOW THESE NORMANS HOW BRAVELY A GAUL CAN DIE!

YOU WAIT, THEY HAVEN'T FINISHED THEIR FUN YET!
GO ON, GAUL, FLY!
I COULDN'T POSSIBLY!

NO, REALLY!
HONESTLY!
I COULDN'T!
OUT OF THE QUESTION!

NOT VERY CO-OPERATIVE,
ARE THEY?
HEY, YOU TWO!

WITH A
ONE...
NO!
NOOO!
AND A
TWO...

AND A
THROW
JUST A
MOMENT!

IF I FRIGHTEN YOU...
YOU... YOU WON'T
MAKE ME FLY?

OF COURSE NOT!
WE'LL BE
FLYING FROM YOU!

ALL RIGHT,
THEN!
I'LL
FRIGHTEN YOU!

SO THE GAULS
HAVE DECIDED TO BE AS
REASONABLE AS US!
GATHER ROUND
EVERYONE!

FIRST I'M
GOING TO TELL
YOU A DREADFUL
STORY ABOUT
SOME Ogres WHO
KILLED A LOT OF...

HMM... LIKE THE TIME I DID
IN 24 ENEMIES AT A GO
BECAUSE I WANTED TO
GIVE A SET OF SKULLS
TO A FRIEND
FOR A WEDDING
PRESENT...

ONLY HE WASN'T TOO PLEASED...
EVERYONE ELSE HAD THE SAME IDEA!
OUR ENEMIES COULDN'T MAKE HEAD
OR TAIL OF IT!

HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!

HO! HO! HO! HO! HO! HO!

Boo!

EEEK!
WHEN I USED TO MAKE
FACES LIKE THAT AT HOME MY
LITTLE SISTER WAS VERY
FRIGHTENED AND...

YOU KNOW, LITTLE SISTERS
USUALLY SCARE
MORE EASILY THAN BIG
SARBARIANS.

WELL, THAT'S ENOUGH JOKING. LET'S
GET BACK TO BUSINESS. NOW FOR
YOUR FLYING DEMONSTRATION!

FIRSTHAH! SECONDHAH!
TAKE HIM OVER TO THE
RUNWAY!

IS THIS ALL
RIGHT?

OH, I'M SO
FRIGHTENED!

HE'S IN FINE
FORM FOR
FLYING NOW...
CAN HE TAKE
OFF?

ALL SYSTEMS GO!
I REPEAT, ALL
SYSTEMS GO! I...

JUST A
MOMENT!
GNGNGN!

WE'RE NOT GIVING IN WITHOUT
A FIGHT!
JUST FOR KIX...
CHARGE!
OBELIX! AT LAST!
NOW WHAT? DO WE STOP OR DO WE CARRY ON?
WHAT?
WHERE'S THE OTHER ONE GONE? THE EXPERT?
BOOM! BONG!
LENNOX!
YOU TOOK YOUR TIME ALL RIGHT? YOU KNOW, I WAS BEGINNING TO GET WORRIED, ALL ON MY OWN....
I CAN EXPLAIN, ASTERIX. IT WAS LIKE THIS...

HERE, ARE YOU TWO STARTING TO CHAT AGAIN? HAVE YOU BROUGHT ME THIS AMAZING THING YOU MENTIONED?

HERE YOU ARE!
WHAT, HIM?!
IN PERSON.

HO! HO! HO! HO! HO!

ALL RIGHT, I GET THE MESSAGE. I'M OFF.

HA! HA! TEEHEEEE!

WAIT A MINUTE, CACOFONIX!

I WARN YOU, ASTERIX, I'M NOT PERFORMING FOR PHILISTINES WHO DON'T KNOW THE SCORE.

YOU WAIT THERE WITH YOUR MEN. I'LL BE BACK DIRECTLY.

ALL RIGHT, TEEHEEEE! YOU REALLY ARE A LAUGH, YOU LOT!

NOW, THESE PEOPLE HAVE COME A LONG, LONG WAY TO HEAR OUR TRADITIONAL GALLISH MUSIC! YOU'RE NOT GOING TO DISAPPOINT THEM, ARE YOU?

A 'RECITAL'? A SOLO PERFORMANCE? WHAT A RESPONSIBILITY!.... BUT HOW ARE THE ACoustICS UP ON THIS CLIFF? ACoustICS ARE MOST IMPORTANT..... IF THE ACoustICS ARE BAD, I COULDN'T DREAM OF IT!

WELL AM I READY TO GIVE THEM A FEW NUMBERS?

I HOPE SO! IF NOT, OUR NUMBER'S UP. I'LL ANNOUNCE YOU.
Normans, for the very first time our bard Cacophonix is about to appear before you in a solo performance!

Something tells me it's the very last time too! He'll soon be flying solo!

Hahahaha!

Go on, Cacophonix! Show them what you can do!

The audience needs warming up a bit...

I love a lassie, a bonnie Gaulish lassie, she's as fair as the boars round the dolmen...

Get with it! I'm real gone!

Oooooh!

Help!

Ouch!

Ow!

Ow!
I LIKE TO BE IN ARMÓRICA... ROCK AROUND THE MORLOGIUM... OH YEAH!

BY THOR! BY ODIN! BITE ON THE BULLET!

IT'S WORKING! IT'S WORKING!

WHAT DID YOU SAY?

STOP! STOP!

WHAT WAS THAT?

SILENCE, PLEASE! OUR BARD WILL NOW GIVE YOU A MEDLEY OF ALL HIS RECENT HITS!

OH YEAH!

NO! NO! BY ODIN! ANYTHING, BUT NOT THAT!

WHY NOT? MAY I ASK?

YOU KNOW THE MEANING OF FEAR!

THE MERE IDEA OF HEARING HIM AGAIN MAKES MY KNEES KNOCK AND MY TEETH CHATTER; I'M IN A COLD SWEAT AND MY STOMACH IS CHURNING...
FEAR? YOU MEAN I'M FRIGHTENED? WE'RE ALL FRIGHTENED?

WE'VE DONE IT! OUR EXPERIMENT HAS WORKED! WE KNOW THE MEANING OF FEAR! SO NOW THE NORMANS KNOW EVERYTHING!

BY ODIN AND BY THOR!

THANK YOU GAUL! COME TO MY ARMS!

NO FEAR!

WHERE DO I COME INTO ALL THIS? I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE ON ABOUT BUT DO I CARRY ON WITH MY RECITAL OR NOT? WE DON'T WANT TO BREAK THE MOOD!

IT DOESN'T MATTER NOW! YOU'VE HAD A TRIUMPH! AN UNPRECEDENTED SUCCESS!

I HAVE?

ABSOLUTELY GREAT/CRAZY, MAN, CRAZY!

YOU MEAN I WAS GOOD?

FANTASTIC!

WELL, YOU KNOW, I DON'T DESERVE ANY CREDIT WITH AN AUDIENCE LIKE THAT YOU FEEL YOU'RE SINGING FOR YOUR FRIENDS!

IF I HAD A SLAB OF MARBLE HANDY I'D ASK FOR YOUR AUTOGRAPH!

YES?

NO, NOT YOURS AUTOGRAP!

AND WHAT DO YOU SAY, OBELIX, MY DEAR FELLOW?

WHAT WAS THAT AGAIN?

HOW CAN I EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE, GAUL?

WELL, YOU AND YOUR MEN COULD GO HOME IN YOUR LONGSHIP NORMAN, AND STAY AWAY A FEW CENTURIES LONGER!

I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO GET HOME... ALL THOSE SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCES... BUT FIRST I WANT TO DO SOMETHING FOR YOU! YOU TAUGHT US THE MEANING OF FEAR!
So we shall hold a farewell feast in your honour, in the true Norman fashion...

Oh, don't bother to say goodbye is to det a little.

...we'll slaughter you all and send you to Odin's banquet in Valhalla! You'll taste the very last word in Norman cooking...

The creme de la creme!

That's about enough of that! If you've quite finished...

Just for kicky is right! They're a pain in the neck!

What?

A pain in the neck!

Yes, of course he's a pain in the neck, not to mention the ears, but all you have to do is put parsley in them when he starts singing, same as me.

Sigh

Normans... Charge!

The audience may have warmed up a bit too much...

Come on, then! Who wants to have a go?

Oo, are we going to fight really? But what for?

I'll explain later.
COME ON, THEN! COME ON!

WE'LL HAVE TO ENGAGE SOME BOUNCERS FOR MY NEXT CONCERT!

BING!

TEHRAC!

BAONG!

NO!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, NO?

ARE YOU RETREATING, NORMANS? BUT YOU NEVER RETREAT!

HE'S RIGHT, THEY'RE RETREATING! WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THEM, ASTERIX?

THEY'RE FRIGHTENED, BY TOUTATIS! THANKS TO US, THEY KNOW THE MEANING OF FEAR!

FEAR... THAT'S IT!

MESSY!

RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!

LET'S SKULK BACK HOME!

WELL, WE CAN FLY NOW, SO LET'S TAKE WING!

GET WITH IT! YOU'RE REAL GONE!

COME ON, THEN! COME ON!

WOOF!

GIVE THEM A DIRGE TO SEE THEM OFF THE PREMISES.

S'WE DON'T TAKE A SKULL OF KINDNESS YET...

WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON, ASTERIX?

OH, NOTHING TO MAKE A SONG ABOUT, OBEILIX.
BACK IN THE VILLAGE, OUR FRIENDS GET A TRIUMPHANT RECEPTION...

COME ON THEN WHY DON'T THEY COME ON?

O GETAFIX... DO YOU THINK THE NORMANS HAD THE RIGHT IDEA WHEN THEY WANTED TO KNOW THE MEANING OF FEAR?

O CHIEF VITALSTATISTIX, YOUR NEPHEW IS NOW A TRUE FEARLESS GAUL!

OF COURSE ASTERIX!

IT'S ONLY WHEN YOU KNOW FEAR THAT YOU BECOME TRULY BRAVE! COURAGE LIES IN OVERCOMING YOUR FEAR!

LIKE MANY OTHER STARS, THE BARD LIKES TO DESCRIBE HIS HITS...

THEY STAMPED... THEY JUMPED UP AND DOWN... THEY TRIED TO GET AT ME...

YOU SHOULD GO FAR... IT'S FARTHER NOW, BETTER.

AND SURE ENOUGH, THE NORMANS HAVE FUGHT THEIR FEAR AND OVERCOME IT. THEY ARE STILL BRAVE AND THEIR TABLES ARE BOOKED 'IN VALHALLA' HIS HITS...

I ONLY ASKED IF THEY'D MADE ANY GOOD CONQUESTS LATELY.

YOU MIGHT KNOW I WAS A NO CHEST!

AS FOR JUSTFORIX, HIS HOLIDAY IN THE BRACING AIR OF ARMORICA IS OVER. THE TIME HAS COME FOR HIM TO GO HOME TO LUTETIA. THE VILLAGERS GIVE HIM A SPLENDID FAREWELL BANQUET, AND CACOFONIX IS INVITED SINCE IT IS, AFTER ALL, THANKS TO THE BARD THAT ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL...

OH YEAH!

THE END