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

Asterix, the hero of these adventures. A shrewd, cunning little warrior; all perilous missions are immediately entrusted to him. Asterix gets his superhuman strength from the magic potion brewed by the druid Getafix...

Obelix, Asterix’s inseparable friend. A mehir delivery-man by trade; addicted to wild boar. Obelix is always ready to drop everything and go off on a new adventure with Asterix – so long as there’s wild boar to eat, and plenty of fighting.

Getafix, the venerable village druid. Gathers mistletoe and brews magic potions. His speciality is the potion which gives the drinker superhuman strength. But Getafix also has other recipes up his sleeve...

Cacophonix, the bard. Opinion is divided as to his musical gifts. Cacophonix thinks he’s a genius. Everyone else thinks he’s un-speakable. But so long as he doesn’t speak, let alone sing, everybody likes him...

Finally, Vitalstatistix, the chief of the tribe. Majestic, brave and hot-tempered, the old warrior is respected by his men and feared by his enemies. Vitalstatistix himself has only one fear; he is afraid the sky may fall on his head tomorrow. But as he always says, 'Tomorrow never comes.'
ALL IS PEACFUL IN THE LITTLE GALLISH VILLAGE WE KNOW SO WELL, AND, AS USUAL, EVERYONE IS CHEERFUL AND FRIENDLY...

GOOD MORNING, OBÉLIX! GOOD MORNING, DOGMATIX!

GOOD MORNING, ASTÉRIX!

GOOD MORNING, GÉNÉRAL!

GOOD MORNING, INEXGÉNITIX!

GOOD MORNING, IMPÉDIMENTA!

GOOD MORNING, FISHMONGER!

GOOD MORNING, CAPOFONIX! STILL LOST YOUR VOICE?

GOOD MORNING, GERMAINIX!

GOOD MORNING, MY BOY!

AND IN THE ROMAN SENATE, OLD SENATOR STRAVANGUS IS GETTING ALL STRUNG UP IN HIS WEEPING TONES, CALCULATED TO RAISE A CROWD TO FEVER PITCH. HE IS SETTING AN OLD SCORE WITH CAESAR...

CAESAR STILL ASKS US FOR MONEY AND MEN TO WAGE WAR, AND YET HE'S NOT EVEN CAPABLE OF KEEPING THE PAX ROMANA IN THE COUNTRIES HE'S ALREADY CONQUERED!

...THERE'S A LITTLE VILLAGE UP THERE IN GALL. IT DEFIES OUR OCCUPying FORCES AND REFUSES TO OBEY OUR LAWS!

LET CAESAR ENFORCE THE POWER OF ROME IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES BEFORE HE THINKS OF NEW CAMPAIGNS!

YES!

HEAR, HEAR!

FOR JUPITER'S SAKE, GET THAT PLEB A SEAT!

A PLEBISCITI! GOOD IDEA!

MON REPOS

MÉRA REQUIES

SO THE NEXT DAY CAESAR HAS A MEETING OF HIS FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES AT HIS LUXURIOUS VILLA OUTSIDE ROME.

BEWARE OF THE DOG
Ah, there you are at last, Brutus! Sit down. Now we can begin.

The roads are so busy after the calends...

The Senate wants to take its revenge on me for cutting its power. I must show them who's the boss, and to do that I'll have to wipe out this wretched Gaulish village...

Let's have your ideas... speak up

Et tu, Brutus?

I suggest brute force!

They have a magic potion which makes them invincible. And do put that dagger away you idiot, you'll do yourself an injury!

Stop me if I'm on the wrong track, but what about buying them off?

These barbarians are not interested in money, if they were, the magic potion would have been on the market long ago!

This is only a suggestion, but...

...their strength springs from their solidarity. If we could sow a bit of discord in the village, they would split up and the potion wouldn't matter any more...

I know the Gauls are famous for their incessant arguments, but this lot stick together through thick and thin.

J.C.! I've got the very man! He'll split them up for you!

He used to have a flat in an insula I own. He made so much trouble in the building that the other tenants managed to get him thrown into prison to be eaten by the lions!

Where is this troublemaker of yours?

He's still in prison, when they put him in the arena, the lions ate one another!

Have him brought to me! Now for some food. Et tu, Brutus?

These classical allusions are beginning to get on my nerves! One of these days...

*Block of flats*
WHAT'S HIS NAME, YOUR TROUBLEMAKER?

TORTUOUS CONVOLVULUS.
YOU'LL SEE, S.C. HE'S A BIT OF A WEEED, BUT VERY EFFECTIVE.
THE GREEN-EYED MONSTER FOLLOWS HIM WHEREVER HE GOES — IT'S LIKE MAGIC!

WE NEED MAGIC TO GET RID OF THOSE GAULS...

YOU'RE A ROTTEN SNEAK, BY JUPITER!

SAY THAT AGAIN!
WHAT'S HAPPENING OUT THERE ??

YOU HEARD A ROTTEN SNEAK!

I'LL TEACH YOU TO GO ROUND SAYING I'M THE CENTURION'S PET!

IS THAT SO? AND WHO WAS IT TOLD HIM I CAME BACK TO CAMP OVER THE VIII LAST NIGHT?

NOW THEN, WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT?

IT WASN'T ME WHO...

AVE CAESAR! IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR ORDERS WE HAVE BROUGHT YOU THE PRISONER.

TORTUOUS CONVOLVULUS

GOOD, UNDO HIM, THEN FALL OUT

COME ALONG, TORTUOUS CONVOLVULUS

SNEAK!

DRUNKARD!
Meanwhile, things are much the same in the little Gaulish village...

Life's good, O Druid!

Too good, Asterix! The Romans are behaving themselves, we haven't got any worries, our bard has lost his voice—it can't last... I feel there's trouble brewing.

Our Druid's changed! He's getting pessimistic in his old age.

However, the Druid's prevision is not without foundation. Danger is ploughing its way towards Gaul on board a Roman galley where everyone is arguing, from the captain...

Well, now, Aberdernanucus, so it seems I'm nothing but an old amphora of wine?

I never said that, Cap'n! It was Giantortus who said that!

...down to the galley slaves.

Was it you who told the other lad I wasn't pulling my weight?

Shut up and row!

Pirate ship to port!

Did you hear that, captain?

No! No one's to listen to him! He's been sent to Coventrium!

He dared to say that while we were at sea our wives were all out at orgies!

If that's the way the land lies, I shan't say another word!!!

Huh! They're the sort of people who'd say I only got into the navy because my wife is a close friend of Julius Caesar's second cousin twice removed!
ROMAN GALLEY TO STARBOARD!

D'YOU SEE ANY GAULS?

NOT A SIGN!

RIGHT...
GET READY TO BOARD HER!

THE PIRATES ARE GOING TO BOARD US, CAPTAIN! WHAT CAN WE DO?

ARE YOU EXPECTING A DECISION FROM AN OLD AMPHORA OF WINE, GIANTORTUS?

THAT'S SLANDER! ABERDEEN ANGUS SPENDS HIS TIME SLANDERING EVERYONE!

I'VE JUST ABOUT HAD ENOUGH...

HAVE YOU LOT DOWN THERE NEARLY FINISHED? WOULDN'T YOUR WIVES BE PROUD IF THEY COULD SEE YOU NOW!

THAT'S DONE IT! COME DOWN HERE AND JUMP TO IT!

NO! I PREFER TO REMAIN ALOOF, ALOFT!

CUT THAT MAST DOWN !!!

HEY! WHAT ABOUT US, THEN?
WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU?

SHIVER ME TIMBERS!
YOU CAN GET READY TO RECEIVE BOARDERS,
THAT'S WHAT YOU CAN DO!

A TRAITOR IN OUR MIDST!

AND WHERE'S THE GOLD?
WE NEVER SAW ANY OF IT!

AURI SACRA FAMES!

HOW DARE YOU BLACKEN MY NAME!

AS FOR YOU, YOU DISTINGUISHED CLASSICAL SCHOLAR,
YOU'RE BEGINNING TO GET ON MY...

BOING!

HAAAAAAAA!

I'VE HOLED US IN THE HOLD!

BOOM!

CRACK!

CHAC!

TCHONK!

BIFF!

BONG!

PAFF!

WHAT THE... WE'RE SINKING!!!

NOW YOU'RE SCUPPERED!

THIS IS GREAT, BOYS!
WE DON'T NEED THE GAULS ANY MORE, WE CAN MAKE FOOLS OF OURSELVES WITHOUT THEM!
IN THE LITTLE GAULISH VILLAGE, IN CONTRAST TO THESE VIOLENT EVENTS...

WE'RE GOING TO GET THINGS READY FOR CHIEF VITALSTATISTIX'S BIRTHDAY PARTY.

IT WILL BE AN OCCASION OF GENERAL GOODWILL!

THERE'LL BE HEAPS OF BOAR, FULL OF BONES, DOGMATIX!

I'M GOING TO GIVE THE CHIEF A MENHIR. WHAT ABOUT YOU?

A SHIELD FOR HIS COLLECTION!

I'M GOING TO GIVE HIM A SWORD!

I'M GOING TO GIVE HIM A FISH. HE CAN STUFF IT!

DON'T LET ON! REMEMBER, WE WANT TO GIVE VITALSTATISTIX A NICE SURPRISE...

WHAT A WONDERFUL SURPRISE! MY DEAR FRIENDS...

... I AM AT A LOSS FOR WORDS, BUT LET ME TRY TO EXPRESS ALL THE JOY I FEEL...

YOU COULD HELP ME PLUCK THIS CHICKEN, INSTEAD OF SPOILING SUCH RUBBISH!

IMPEDEMTA, IN MY POSITION AS CHIEF, AS THE MOST IMPORTANT MAN IN THE VILLAGE, I DO HAVE CERTAIN OBLIGATIONS...

YES, WHEN IT COMES TO STUFFING YOURSELF WITH FOOD AND DRINK ANY EXCUSE WILL DO, BUT WHEN IT COMES TO WORKING...

WELL, YOU'RE PROUD OF BEING THE CHIEF'S WIFE, AREN'T YOU? FIRST LADY OF THE VILLAGE! SOME OF MY GLORY RUBS OFF ON TO YOU!

YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN! WE'RE GOING TO BE LANDED WITH A LOT OF STUPID PRESENTS. WE COULD NEVER EXPECT YOUR FRIENDS TO GIVE YOU ANYTHING WORTHWHILE, OH NO! NO ARTISTIC SENSE! JUST SAVAGES...
IN THE TENT OF THE CENTURION IN COMMAND OF THE ROMAN CAMP OF AQUARIUM...

I KNOW ALL THAT, FELIX PLATYPLUS. BUT YOU KNOW WHAT CAESAR SAID: YOU MUST TAKE YOUR ORDERS FROM ME!

I DON'T OBJECT TO THAT AT ALL, CONVOLVULUS. I JUST DON'T THINK THAT YOU'LL MANAGE TO SPLIT THEM UP...

...AND THAT POTION OF THEIRS MUST BE STRONG STUFF - THEY'RE FULL OF TEAM SPIRIT!

YOU HAVE GIVEN ME THE NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF EVERY ONE OF THOSE NUT CASES. NOW, I NEED THAT!

THAT?

IT'S JUST THAT THIS VASE IS PART OF THE SPOILS FROM ONE OF MY CAMPAIGNS...

YES, YOUR JUNIOR OFFICERS TOLD ME YOU HAD SOME INDIVIDUAL IDEAS ABOUT SHARING OUT THE BOOTY

GET ALL MY JUNIOR OFFICERS FALLEN IN!

SOON AFTERWARDS...

WHAT'D YOU WANT, ROMAN?

I HAVE BROUGHT A PRESENT TO THE MOST IMPORTANT MAN IN THE VILLAGE!

...AND HE'S BROUGHT A VALUABLE VASE!

AH!

PORTERS!

CLICK!

HERE HE COMES! RIGHT, BOYS! SHOW A BIT OF DIGNITY! WE DON'T WANT TO LOOK AS IF WE'RE EXPECTING HIM!
Having arrived lately in Gall, and desirous of strengthening the ties of friendship between Romans and Gauls, I bring this gift for you, the most important man in the village.

Back Home! Jump to it!

And how many times do I have to tell you? Bend down when you go through doorways!!!

Impressive, eh? The most important man in the village, eh? The Romans have got the picture all right! And they don't give menhirs and other trash to Asterix...

Really important people get given valuable works of art!

I tell you I'm the most important!

Oh yes? Well, let me tell you that if anyone should ever be fool enough to write the story of our village, they won't be calling it the adventures of Vitalstatistix the Gaul!!!
...A valuable vase, studded with jewels!

...and full of precious stones, I saw them!

Did you see Vitalstatistix's face?

Watch out! Here's impedimenta!

Phoenix Fishmongers

Good morning

Hey! There's a queue here, you know!

What? But I'm the chief's wife! The first lady of the village!

That's not what the Romans think!

That's right! If Asterix was married, Mrs. Asterix would be it!

Bacteria! Help me get the fish in! Quick!

Oh, would she!

Yes, she would!

Soon afterwards...

Ladies! Ladies! Take it easy!

Biff!

Hiiiii~
AH! WHAT HAVE YOU BROUGHT FOR LUNCH, INPREDIMENTA, MY LOVE?

THAT!

SPLATCH!

BOOHHO! MY PARENTS WARNED ME YOU WERE NO GOOD! I'VE GIVEN THE BEST YEARS OF MY LIFE TO A GREAT FAT BOAR! A BARBARIAN! A FAILURE! EVERYONE LOOKS DOWN ON ME!

YOU'LL NEVER GET A VALUABLE VASE, NOT YOU! NOBODY EVER GIVES ANYTHING LIKE THAT TO YOU!

I'M JUST ABOUT FED UP TO THE BACK TEETH WITH THIS VASE!

AND COARSE WITH IT!

BOOHHO! BOOHHO!

WATCH IT!

HERE'S THE BOSS!

I DIDN'T RING FOR YOU!
I'M GOING OUT ON FOOT!
INCognito !!!

WHAT DO YOU WANT, ROMAN?

NOTHING. I WAS JUST PASSING, SO I POPPED IN TO SAY AVE

RIGHT. AVE. NOW TAKE YOUR VASE AND OFF YOU GO!

WOULDN'T HEAR OF IT!
I WON'T KEEP YOU ANY LONGER

THAT BOAR WAS EXCELLENT! THANKS FOR EVERYTHING ASTERIX!
That Roman is crazy!

Ah, Asterix! So you've been having guests in to share your boar, have you?

Tumf!

Guests? No such thing! Apart from Obelix, and he...

That Roman seemed to appreciate your boar, all the same...

He didn't touch it! Come and see, O chief, we have two boars and they haven't been started!

Don't you ever let go of that vase?

Slurp!

Scrunch! Scrunch!

What the...??!

You're free to choose your own friends, Asterix, even in the enemy camp, even Romans!

Couldn't you wait before gobbling up those boars, you greedy pig?

They were getting cold, and when you went out after your friend...

He is not my friend!

You're free to choose your own friends, Asterix, even in the enemy camp, even Romans!

I'll be more careful about choosing my friends in future!

I get the message, come along, Dogmatix, we're in the way here.

Ave, Asterix!
RIGHT, THAT'S IT. HE'S GONE TOO FAR THIS TIME. GROH GROH GROH...

SROMFORD ONK GROH GROH GROH...

GROH GROH GROH ONK...

ASTERIX!

OBELIX!

BODHOO!

BODHOO!

I SHOULDN'T HAVE CALLED YOU A GREEDY PIG!

I SHOULD'NT HAVE SAID WHAT I SAID!

HOWWWW!

COME ON, LET'S HAVE A BEER!

SMASHING!

YAP! YAP!

HML THEY'RE CELEBRATING SOMETHING IN THERE!

I'M WORRIED, OBELIX. EVERYONE IN THE VILLAGE IS SO JUMPY. THINGS COULD TAKE A TURN FOR THE WORSE...

THEY COULD INDEED... VITASTATIX HAS JUST GIVEN HIS OWN ACCOUNT OF RECENT EVENTS, STRESSING THE BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN ASTERIX AND THE MYSTERIOUS ROMAN.

I DON'T GO CHASING AFTER HONOURS; I DON'T INVITE ALL AND SUNDAY HOME, NOT EVEN ROMANS! I COULD BE A ROMAN SENATOR IF I WANTED TO, BUT YOU KNOW ME, MY LOVE...

JUST WAIT TILL MY FRIENDS HEAR ABOUT THIS! IT SO HAPPENS I'VE INVITED THEM FOR A CUP OF GOAT'S MILK TO TALK ABOUT THIS BUSINESS!

* TEA, THOUGH WELL-KNOWN IN THE VILLAGE, IS NOT IN WIDESPREAD USE...
I HOPE I'M NOT LATE?

OF COURSE NOT

OH, IT'S ONLY MILK, SUGAR, EGGS, FLOUR AND BOAR FAT—NOT AT ALL FATTENING

I HOPE I'M NOT LATE?

OF COURSE NOT

OH, IT'S ONLY MILK, SUGAR, EGGS, FLOUR AND BOAR FAT—NOT AT ALL FATTENING

IMPEDIMENTA, ABOUT THIS MORNING... IT WAS ONLY A BIT OF FUN... A JOKE

OF COURSE! LET'S TALK ABOUT MORE IMPORTANT THINGS...

MY HUSBAND THE CHIEF—JULIUS CAESAR NOMINATED HIM A SENATOR, BUT HE REFUSED, OF COURSE—WELL, HE'S GIVING A GREAT DEAL OF THOUGHT TO ASTERIX AND HIS FRIENDSHIP WITH THAT ROMAN

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YES, MY HUSBAND FULLIOMATIC TOLD ME THEY WERE HAVING A GOOD TIME. HE HEARD LAUGHTER AND SINGING. THEY SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN DRINKING!

HOW DREADFUL! YOU KNOW, I'VE ALWAYS HAD MY DOUBTS ABOUT ASTERIX. A MAN OF HIS AGE AND STILL A BACHELOR...

HOW OLD IS HE EXACTLY?

GOODNESS KNOWS! MY HUSBAND GERIATRIX SAYS HE'S NOT SO YOUNG AS HE LOOKS!

MMM... AND HIS FRIEND OBELIX? DO YOU THINK HE'S A GOOD INFLUENCE? ALL THAT GREEDY PIG THINKS OF IS HIS FOOD!

THE TROUBLE IS THAT ASTERIX IS OUR DRUID GETARIX'S FAVOURITE, AND HE KNOWS A LOT OF SECRETS...

THE SECRET OF THE MAGIC POTION, FOR EXAMPLE?

MY LIPS ARE SEALED

AND SOON AFTERWARDS...

... SO ASTERIX HAS SOLD THE SECRET OF THE MAGIC POTION TO THE ROMANS? THESE YOUNG PEOPLE! I ASK YOU!
I'm worried about the villagers' attitude... surely they don't suspect me just because of that Roman's visit!

Hm... slander can be dangerous. Tolitatis alone knows what ideas they're dreaming up!

But the druid Getafix is unduly optimistic... in the village, everyone suspects everyone else...

None of that matters! The chief's birthday banquet is this very evening. That will bring everybody together again.

The only one who is unaware of this sad state of affairs is the bard Calcorox, with his head in the clouds...

But that evening, during the banquet, no one is speaking to anybody else...

In fact, the bard has the strange impression of being alone at the table. You might almost think it was the end...

...The end of the village!
Next day, a Roman patrol is scouting around in the forest, taking no chances...

Footsteps!

Let's hide in that tree over there!

Ouch! Let's use a different tree!

There's no time! Ssh!

It's very kind of you to come and help me check my snakes, full automatix!

I wanted a quiet word with you, away from the others...

Ouch!

Ouch! Ooh!

You're an experienced chap, Geriatrix... if the Romans do have the magic potion, it's very serious... my wife thinks the time has come to leave the district.

Huh! The Romans don't scare me with their magic potion. I'm ready to fight again, as we did at Gergovia!

Have we got the magic potion?

Surely we'd know!

By the way, boys, now the Gauls have gone, shall we get down from this tree?

Yes, because of the wasps!

Back at aquarium...

We've got the magic potion!

We've got the magic potion!!

Bzzzzzzzzz...
A Cauldron, quick! Get him stewed!

No thanks! I'm not eating that! I never touch it!

Simmer down! Everything is going according to plan!

We'll spread it about that we do have the magic potion, and I promise you the Gauls will soon split up and go away.

We are soldiers! We don't like the devils ways of civil servants! We prefer honourable battles, the clash of arms, the clarion call of Bucinæas...

Blood, toll, tears and...

Right, what do we do, Convovillus?

Come with me. I'll tell you my plans.
I've chosen you for this mission, Magnamorus, because you have all the necessary qualities for participating in psychological warfare...

The patrol's intelligence is correct - a snare! Excellent! Let's hide behind this tree.

When I give the signal, do what I told you, Magnamorus...

He's alone! Everything's going to plan!

What a pity... nothing!

Now!

Excellent! Now, take your helmet off!

Off we go!

Duh! I likes psychological warfare, I does!
Alesia! It's Alesia all over again!

The Romans attacked me! They've got superhuman strength! I wasn't beaten easily, and I managed to snatch this trophy. Only the magic potion could have made them strong enough to overcome me!

That proves it! They've got the potion!

Have you all gone mad, by Toutatis? You don't need magic potion to knock Geriatrix out!

What's that?

All the same, a Roman would have to be pretty sure of himself to attack even this old relic!

Look here...

...but surely even Geriatrix could have mastered any Latin that small!

And you know what Geriatrix says to you?!!

We must find out for sure whether the Romans have the magic potion

I'll go and ask them if you like

No, not you, unhygienix and fulliautomatix, you go!
THE ROMANS HAVE GOT THE MAGIC POTION! WE SAW THEM!

WE'VE BEEN SEEING A LOT OF ROMANS AROUND THE VILLAGE LATELY
ARE YOU ACCUSING ME OF GIVING THE ROMANS THE SECRET OF THE MAGIC POTION?
AND HOW ABOUT YOU, VITALSTATISTIX? ARE YOU ACCUSING ME OF TELLING ASTERIX THE SECRET - THE SECRET THAT MAY ONLY BE HANDED DOWN FROM DRUID TO DRUID, BY WORD OF MOUTH?

ER... WELL...
ALL RIGHT! I'LL GET THE MESSAGE. I'M LEAVING THE VILLAGE
ME TOO
WELL, THEN, ME TOO

BUT DRUID... IF YOU WALK OUT ON US WE WON'T HAVE ANY MAGIC POTION!

I WONDER IF WE MAY JUST POSSIBLY HAVE DONE A SILLY THING, BOYS...
YOU SHOULD HAVE STOPPED THEM, SENATOR

STOP CALLING ME SENATOR, IDIOT! GET OUT OF MY SIGHT!

I FEEL VERY LOW...
YOU!?

Yes, us. We've come to tell you that you've won!

You've succeeded in sowing discord in our village by spreading lies and slander.

Wh... what are you going to do to me?

Nothing. We've just come to tell you we despise you. We're not interested in you or the villagers who were so ready to believe your lies.

We're leaving these parts, along with Obelix and the magic potion!

??

I checked up on it! They haven't got the magic potion. They're as soft as ever.

Let's get out of this camp.

Did you see that dogmatix? No one's got the magic potion now, and they're laughing!

We can see everything that goes on in the camp from our vantage point in this tree.

EXPLAIN YOURSELF, CONVOLVULUS. YOU’RE MAKING LESS SENSE ALL THE TIME

NOW THAT THOSE THREE GAULS HAVE GONE, THE OTHERS WILL BE HARMLESS. NO MORE DRUID, NO MORE MAGIC POTION!

I GET IT!

SOUND THE BUCINAS AND TRUMPETS! TO ARMS! EVERYONE FALL IN! ALL ABLE-BODIED PERSONNEL TO REVIVE THOSE WHO WERE BRAINWASHED!

TANTANTARA TARA!

AND WHAT, MAY I ASK, IS THAT?

WELL, SINCE THERE ARE SOME WHO SAY WE HAVEN’T GOT THE MAGIC POTION, WE THOUGHT PSYCHOLOGICAL WAR...

THAT WILL DO! YOU’RE IN THE ROMAN ARMY NOW!

STAND TO ATTENTION! NO FALLING OUT OF LINE!
YOU WILL MASSACRE ACCORDING TO THE RULES!
I DON’T WANT ANY FANCY NOTIONS HERE! GO AND GET YOUR WEAPONS!
SOON AFTERWARDS...

RIGHT! LEGIONARIES, WE ARE ABOUT TO ATTACK THE GALLISH VILLAGE AND Wipe IT OFF THE FACE OF THE ROMAN EARTH! THE GALLS HAVEN'T GOT ANY MORE MAGIC POTION, AND...

BUT... ER... HAVE WE GOT THE MAGIC POTION, THEN?

YES, OF COURSE WE HAVE!

NO, OF COURSE WE HAVEN'T!

LISTEN! NO ONE'S GOT THE MAGIC POTION, BUT WE OUTNUMBER THE GALLS TWO TO ONE. WE SHALL WIN EASILY, AND CAESAR WILL REWARD US!

SO...

UP, LEGIONARIES, AND AT 'EM!

AVE CAESAR!

I SEE THAT MIXING WITH US HAS MADE YOU A CUNNING STRATEGIST!

TANTANTAR TARA!

BONG!

BONG!

IT'S WORKING LIKE A CHARM! THEY'VE LEFT THE CAMP, OFF WE GO!
They haven't even left a sentry!

What are we going to do in this camp if there aren't any Romans left?

Aha! There's their cauldron of so-called magic potion!

You're going to carry it, Obelix, without spilling a drop!

Is this magic potion?

My dear Obelix, if you drank it it wouldn't have any effect on you at all.

Oh, then it is magic potion. Magic potion never does have any effect on me at all.

Sometimes he makes me wonder if I know what I mean myself!

Let's not waste time. We have to reach the village before the Romans.

Sure enough, the legionaries are passing through the forest in the direction of the village.

I say, the lads want to know how the loot is going to be shared out this time, because at Munda...

Well, what about Munda? What happened at Munda?

The loot was perfectly fairly distributed. Let's see, there were those twelve valuable vases...

Let's not count on valuable vases... you might get a nasty jar!

Sure enough, in the village, the Gauls are getting ready to prove that they are not by any means old crooks...

With or without potion, we'll show them who we are!
There they are! We must reach the village ahead of them! Take a good swig of magic potion, Asterix!

No, no, not that one, Obelix!

Ouch! They're attacking us in the rear!

But... but we're the rear!

Tchapatrac! Our rear is being attacked! Our rear is being attacked! Pass it on!!

This is a pretty pass!

But someone must have sold it...

The rear is being attacked!

What?

Clonk!
ASTERIC, OBELIX
AND GETAFIX ARE
COMING BACK!!!!

QUICK, YOU TWO! GO
AND OPEN THE GATES!

RIGHT,
CHIEF!

MIND THE
SHIELD, WILL
YOU, CHIEF?

SHUT
THE
GATES!

MEANWHILE...

WHAT
HAPPENED?

O CENTURION PLATYPUS, I HAVE
ENDANGERED MY LIFE TO BRING YOU THIS
REPORT! THE REAR WAS TREACHEROUSLY
ATTACKED, AND SURRENDERED ONLY
AFTER A TERRIBLE STRUGGLE!

IDIOT! OWING TO THE FAILURE OF THE
REAR TO BACK UP, THE ORDER OF
MARCH HAS BEEN TURNED BACK TO
FRONT! NOW GET BACK TO THE FRONT!

DID YOU BY ANY
CHANCE FAIL TO
UNDERSTAND ME?

WELL, TO BE
HONEST...

GET ON
WITH IT!!!

CALM DOWN... THINGS
AREN'T TURNING OUT QUITE
AS EXPECTED... THE GAULS
HAVE GONE BACK TO THE
VILLAGE WITH OUR MAGIC POTION...

BUT IT ISN'T THE REAL MAGIC
POTION... OR IF IT IS, I'M DROPPING
THE WHOLE AFFAIR ON THE
GROUND OF TOTAL INCOMPREHENSIBILITY!
GOOD OF YOU TO COME BACK... GETAFIX, I WONDER IF I COULD POSSIBLY ASK YOU TO MAKE A LITTLE MAGIC POTION...

MAGIC POTION? HERE YOU ARE! WE'VE BEEN TO THE ROMAN CAMP TO GET IT

THE ROMAN CAMP?
THATS RIGHT. FULL AUTOMATIC AND UNHYGIENIX TOLD YOU IT WAS MAGIC POTION - THEY SAW THE ROMANS DRINKING IT

COME ON, THEN. HAVE SOME! WHO'S FIRST?

IT DOESN'T TASTE OF ANYTHING MUCH. IT MAY WORK. TRY UPROOTING THAT TREE

UGHNGH!

GIVE HIM A HAND, ASTERIX!

WITH PLEASURE, O DRUID!

THATS THE POTION WE NEED, GETAFIX

OHHH! I'M NOT BOTHERING YOU, SO KINDLY LET ME COMPOSE MY BALLADS IN PEACE!!!

OH, SO YOU DON'T THINK THE ROMANS' POTION IS THE SAME AS MINE, VITALSTATISTIX?
There’s not a moment to be lost! The Gauls know that our potion is no good. Their druid is going to make them some of the real stuff. We must attack at once. It’s our only chance!

Atta...!? Where’s that lot gone?

The vanguard went to help the rear, and I stayed at the front back here, because after all psychological warfare...

Go and find me all those idiots, idiot!

Meanwhile... All right, so we behaved badly. We believed the slanders that renown spread, and we were wrong. You wouldn’t let us down now, would you?

Never mind! It’ll be like Gergovia! We don’t need any potion! Let’s go!

He’s right! Let’s go! I’m coming too!

I don’t know where you’re going, but I’m going with you! We’ll all go!

This is more like you! Absolutely crazy, but united once again. Now I’ll make you some magic potion! Real magic potion!

But that will take time, and the Romans...

Well, you and Obelix hold the Romans off!
DO YOU GET IT, OBELIX? WE MUST HIND THEM OFF UNTIL OUR DRUID HAS FINISHED MAKING THE MAGIC POTION.

I DON'T REALLY GET ANYTHING, BUT I'M WITH YOU ALL THE WAY!

SURRENDER GAULS!

MAY I?

BY ALL MEANS

BIF!

CRASH!

PLONK!

KERPLONK!

BIF!

BIF!

RETIRE!

ASTERIX, WE MUST PRESS THEM TO STAY IF THEY GO AWAY WE CAN'T HOLD THEM OFF!

NO, IT'S A PITY THE ROMAN TROOPS HAVE SUCH RETIRING DISPOSITIONS.

A WHOLE ARMY PUT TO FLIGHT BY TWO BARBARIANS. OH, WON'T CAESAR BE PLEASED WHEN I TELL HIM ABOUT THIS!

THERE ISN'T ANYTHING TO TELL. THIS IS A STRATEGIC WITHDRAWAL. I'M GOING TO ASK THE OTHER GARRIIONS TO BRING UP REINFORCEMENTS AND TAKE THEM IN THE REAR. WE SHALL CRUSH THEM BY SHEER WEIGHT OF NUMBERS!

OF COURSE, THERE ARE TWO OF THEM, AND WE WERE ONLY ONE GARRISON.

TAKE THESE MESSAGES TO LAUDANUM, TUTORKUM AND COMPENDIUM. HURRY!

SURE ENOUGH, TIME IS RUNNING OUT FOR THE ROMANS...

JUST LET IT SIMMER FOR A FEW MORE MINUTES...
All I need is a sprig of mistletoe!

But there isn't any mistletoe left in the village! We'll have to go and look for some in the forest!

Obelix, my dear fellow, take my sickle and go and find me a bit of mistletoe on those trees over there!

They told me I was going to hold off the Romans, and now they send me out for vegetables...

They're counter-attacking! To arms!

It's not my job to run errands!

Clonk!

You Romans are crazy! When we're looking for a fight...

Biff!

But I'm not here for the fighting just now, so kindly let me run my errands in peace.

What's he after up there?

Sblonk!

Oof! I was afraid it was obsolete!
ASTERIX! ASTERIX! THERE ARE
MASSES OF ROMANS, COMING
FROM ALL OVER THE PLACE!

OH, SO THAT'S
WHY THEY
STOPPED ATTACKING...
THEY WERE WAITING FOR
REINFORCEMENTS!

THE ROMAN
GARRISONS ARE ALL
MARCHING ON US!

IT'S NEARLY READY.
THEM THEY'LL GET A PASTE
OF THEIR OWN MEDICINE

AVE PLATYPUS!
THE GARRISON OF
TOTORUM...

AND THE
GARRISON OF
LAUDAMUM...

AND THE
GARRISON OF
COMPENDIUM ARE
HERE IN RESPONSE TO
YOUR REQUEST!

AVE, FRIENDS!
RIGHT, THEN...
ATTACK!

COME AND
GET IT!

SOON
AFTERWARDS...

HAS EVERYONE HAD
HIS PORTION OF POTION?
RIGHT, THEN ...

ATTACK!
THE BATTLE OF THE VILLAGE

Only a panoramic view can do justice to the complex nature of this terrible battle, in which a small village of indomitable Gauls comes to grips with the garrisons of the fortified Roman camps of Aquarium, Totorum, Laudanum and Compendium.

1. Indomitable little Gaulish village.
2. Garrison of Aquarium (Roman camp).
3. Garrison of Roman camp of Totorum.
4. Garrison of Roman camp of Laudanum.
5. Garrison of Roman camp of Compendium.
6, 7, 8, 9. Gauls pouring out of the village any old how, without any plan of battle.
10. Druid Getalex awaiting the outcome of the battle beside his cauldron, now empty.
11. Bard Cacophonix asking the druid what it’s all about, and what, might he ask, is going on?
12. Pirate ship sunk by Gauls pouring out at (8) full of enthusiasm, discovering on arrival at the beach that there are no Romans available, and deciding not to waste their time anyway, by Tootatis.
13. Obelix, menhir delivery man, trying to keep back the Gauls while explaining to them that he got there first, he didn’t ring for anyone, he would like to be left alone with his own Romans and they don’t want to be disturbed.
15. Usthygienix, village fishmonger, friend of the afore-mentioned.
16. Point of intersection of the two friends.
17. Geriatris, village elder, engaged in single combat with Magnusopus, Roman legionary.
18. Vitalstatistix, chief of the Gaulish village, badly let down by his shield-bearers, who have jumped the fence without bothering to see that he kept his balance. He feels understandably downcast for a few moments.

VITALSTATISTIX
Gaulish chief

ASTERIX
Gaulish warrior

OBELIX
Menhir delivery man

PLATYPUS
Roman centurion

CONVOLVULUS
Roman strategist

MAGNUMOPUS
Roman legionary
THE BATTLE, ALTHOUGH VIOLENT, IS OF SHORT DURATION, AND THE VICTORS ARE LEFT IN POSSESSION OF THE BATTLEFIELD, THEIR ARMS FULL OF TROPHIES...

TEEHEEHEE!

I CALL THAT BATTLE A REAL SUCCESS, IT WAS A GREAT CRUSH!

YES, BUT THERE'S STILL SOMETHING WE HAVE TO DO. CALL THE OTHERS!

A LITTLE FARTHER AWAY...

OH, SO THERE YOU ARE, YOU AND YOUR TROUBLEMAKING! BRAVO! OH, VERY WELL DONE! WE WERE GOING ALONG QUIETLY AS USUAL, THE GAULS WERE MINDING THEIR OWN BUSINESS, AND NOW WE'VE SUFFERED A DEFEAT, THANKS TO YOU!

AS FOR ME, I DID WHAT I HAD TO DO... IT WAS YOU OTHERS WHO...

Hey!

LEGIONARIES! ARREST THAT PERSON!

ALL RIGHT, I'M GOING... I'M NOT NEEDED HERE ANY MORE...
You'll always find a welcome in our village, Convolvulus!

And here's a little souvenir over and above the price we settled...

Long live Convolvulus!

Up with Convolvulus!

Up with our old pal!

HA! Now I see it all! You were on their side all the time! That explains our defeat!

I never! It's a slander! You can't believe such wicked lies!

But... but...

Put him in chains! We'll be sending him back to Rome to Caesar, charged with high treason!

But we need not be unduly worried about the troublemaker, Convolvulus will wriggle his way out of anything, and even on board the galley which is taking him back to Rome, he does not feel alone... slander, jealousy and callumny have embarked with him!

Oh, can't we just!!!

I said to Port!

Stop shouting your oar in, captain - we all know the sort of pull you used to get your job!
WE'VE BELIEVED BADLY TOWARDS YOU, ASTERIX; OUR FRIENDSHIP SHOULD HAVE BEEN PROOF AGAINST ANY SLANDERS. YOU AND GETFIX, AND OBELIX HAVE TAUGHT US A LESSON, AND YOU HAVE SAVED OUR VILLAGE, BY BANISHING DISCORD FROM IT...

NO, I DO THE BOWING, NOT YOU....

SOMETIMES HE ACTS IN THE MOST UNBALANCED WAY! IF HE CARRIES ON LIKE THIS WE'LL LET HIM DOWN ONE OF THESE DAYS!

FORDIVE US, ASTERIX!

LETS BYGONES BE BYGONES! WEL ORGANIZE A BIRTHDAY FEAST FOR OUR CHIEF! A REAL ONE, NOT A FLOP LIKE LAST TIME!

BRAVO, BY TOLITATIS!

I'M GOING TO GIVE HIM ANOTHER MENHIR!

I'M GOING TO GIVE HIM A SWORD!

I CAUGHT A GOOD FISH LAST WEEK. IT'LL BE JUST WHAT HE WANTED!

IT WILL BE A LOVELY SURPRISE FOR THE CHIEF!

MEANWHILE...

WHAT A WONDERFUL SURPRISE! MY DEAR FRIENDS, I AM AT A LOSS FOR WORDS...

I'M GLAD WE'RE ALL FRIENDS AGAIN!

ALL THE SAME, I'D LIKE TO KNOW IF THEY REALLY ARE QUIRED

I MUST SAY, IT WOULD BE INTERESTING TO FIND OUT... AND IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU GOT A BIT OF YOUR OWN BACK.
NEXT MORNING...

OH, LOOK AT THAT!

WHAT ARE THEY UP TO? ONLY THE CHIEF IS ALLOWED TO TRAVEL ABOUT THAT WAY.

PERHAPS HE'S GOING TO REPLACE THE CHIEF?

I EXPECT VITALSTATISTIX APPOINTED HIM HIS SUCCESSOR AFTER THE BATTLE.

IF THERE'S GOING TO BE A SUCCESSOR IT OUGHT TO BE MY HUSBAND, GERATRIX. AFTER ALL, HE'S GOT MORE EXPERIENCE THAN ANYONE ELSE!

GERATRIX? THAT'S NOT EXPERIENCE, THAT'S SENILITY! NOW LOOK AT FULLAUTOMATIX—YOUNG, STRONG AND...

BACTERIA! PUT AWAY THE FISH—QUICK!

FULLAUTOMATIX? THAT GREAT CASK NOW MY HUSBAND HAS A GOOD HEAD FOR BUSINESS, A...

GOOD MORNING!

UNHYGIENIX FISHMONGER

HERE YOU STAND IN THE QUEUE LIKE EVERYONE ELSE!

BUT I'M THE CHIEF'S WIFE!

NO, I'M THE CHIEF'S WIFE! SERVE ME, BACTERIA!

SPLATCH!
CALM DOWN, CALM DOWN! WHAT'S GOING ON NOW?

BIFF! BOFF! CLONK!

WHY?

TEE HEE HEE!

I'LL TELL YOU WHAT'S GOING ON! THESE OLD BAGS ARE SAYING YOU'RE SENILE!

OUCH!

BONG!

CHONK!

BUT I DIDN'T SAY A WORD!

I KNOW, BUT ALL THE SAME I CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO BASH THAT OLD RELIC!

ME, AN OLD RELIC?

I'VE GOT A RIGHT TO BE BASHED! I WANT TO BE BASHED!

I'LL BASH THE LOT OF YOU IF YOU DON'T LEAVE MY FISH ALONE!

ARE WE NEVER GOING TO HAVE ANY PEACE? STOP IT! THAT'S AN ORDER FROM YOUR CHIEF!

WHICH CHIEF?

THAT'S RIGHT. LIMHYGIENAX IS CHIEF!

THAT IDIOT?

WELL, JULIUS CAESAR NEVER MADE THIS IDIOT A SENATOR!

CRRRUNCH!

BANG!

NOW, NOW, WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT?

BIFF!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING ON THAT SHIELD?

THERE'S NO NEED TO RAISE THE ROOF.

...MINE'S A BIT LOW, SO I THOUGHT I'D BETTER COME OUTSIDE TO ROAD-TEST THE SHIELD I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU.

ER...HA, HA!... SEE YOU THIS EVENING, THEN...

THAT'S RIGHT...

I THINK THEY'VE GOT THE MESSAGE THIS TIME.

YES, THEY'RE FOND OF A FIGHT, IMPractical, ECCentric... BUT YOU HAVE TO LIKE THEM. THEY'RE ONLY HUMAN!

THESE HUMANS ARE CRAZY!

TAP! TAP! TAP!

BUT THAT EVENING, THE HUMANS HAVE FORGOTTEN THEIR TROUBLES, AND UNDER THE STARRY SKY WHICH COVERS THEM, WITH NO INTENTION OF FALLING ON THEIR HEADS, OUR FRIENDS THE GÁULS ARE REUNITED FOR ONE OF THEIR TRADITIONAL BANQUETS, CELEBRATING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE END OF HOSTILITIES.

WHAT A WONDERFUL SURPRISE! MY DEAR FRIENDS, I AM AT A LOSS FOR WORDS...

THE END