YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY USELESS! THE PAIR OF YOU! I NEVER WANT TO SET EYES ON YOU AGAIN!!!

HEY, AREN'T THOSE CHIEF VITALSTATITIX'S SHIELD-BEARERS?

YES, HE'S GIVEN US THE SACK. HE WAS IN A GOOD MOOD THIS MORNING, TOO; HE EVEN SAID IT WAS A NICE DAY...

SO WE LEAN'T OVER BACKWARDS TO HAVE A LOOK AT THE SKY...

...AND WHEN WE STRAIGHTENED UP THE CHIEF WASN'T ON HIS SHIELD.

HE'S BECOMING QUITE UNBEARABLE. HE'LL LOSE HIS STANDING IN THE TRIBE IF HE THROWS HIS WEIGHT ABOUT LIKE THAT.

ASTERIX! OBELEX! I AM GOING TO CONFER AN HONOUR ON YOU! I APPOINT YOU MY SHIELD-BEARERS!

WHAT, US?
But, Chief Vitalstatistix... no arguing! To work!

Tesheree! You'd do better if you were walking along a slope!

It shows the chef is bent on getting a good angle on things! Proves what you can do if you've got the inclination!

Put me down, boys. I have a suspicion that people are laughing at us!

It would work better if Obelix carried you on his own, Chief.

On his own? In his full capacity, a chief must be served by two warriors. I'd feel like a half-pint chief if...

Anyway, I've got some menhirs to polish.

Soon afterwards...

What on earth is Obelix doing?

He's just serving a half-pint of mild and bitter.

By Toutatis! Are you refusing to serve me? I'm a mild man but this makes me feel very bitter!
THE GOOD HUMOUR PREVALENT IN THE GAULISH VILLAGE IS CONSPICUOUSLY ABSENT FROM THE PALACE OF VARUS FLAVIUS, THE POWERFUL ROMAN GOVERNOR OF CONDATUM. THOUGH HIS GUESTS ARE DOING THEIR BEST TO HAVE A GOOD TIME...

BY JUPITER, O SUBUNE FLAVIUS, YOUR ORGES ARE BEAUTIFULLY DECADENT. THEY MAKE US QUITE FORGET HOW FAR WE ARE FROM ROME!

GOOD TASTE, THAT'S THE WHOLE SECRET... I GET THE ROMAN IMPRESARIO FELLINU S TO LAY ON MY ORGES.

BRING ON THE DANCING GIRLS!

WINE! MORE WINE!

MASTER... THE PERSON YOU WERE EXPECTING IS IN YOUR ROOMS.

COMING... BRING ON THE BOAR'S TROPE POURED IN AUROCHE DRIPPING!

YOU REALLY ARE SPOILING US, DIVINE FLAVIUS!

HAVE FUN, FRIENDS! I'LL BE BACK IN A MINUTE!

Haven't you got your green rasher? I want to make myself look worse.

Hi! Slave! This dish is clean! It's disgraceful!

THAT'S RIGHT! WHY NOT PANCE-BOUS, WHILE YOUR'S ABOUT IT?
Ave, callus, Eucalyptus! Are the takings good?

Very good, O Valrus Flavus! Here's the gold from the taxes, fines, chariot parking meters, Roman road tax, and licences to listen to the town criers!

Excellent! Now to share it out...

That's for you...

That's for me...

...And that's for Rome!

Don't you think you may be going a bit far? Slocker or later Rome's going to realise how little money comes from this province.

My appointment here is for a year! I have one year to get rich! I'll be far away by the time Rome can act! Far away and rich!

My life will be one long orgy!

Yes, but what if Rome sends out an inspector - a quaestor?

By Juno, I'll know how to deal with him! Either I'll make him decadent, and fast, or I'll get rid of him!

That's enough work for one day! Come on! Do you like boar's trepse fried in aurochs dripping?

With honey?
Ave, governor; Julius Caesar has sent me from Rome as treasurer for the provinces. I'm here to audit your accounts, not to take part in orgies. Tell these people to go away.

Of course, of course, friends. Now then, friends, those of you who can still walk take the rest away.

And open the windows, by the gods.

Where are we going? Somewhere else, to carry on with the party.

Quaest... Quaestor Vexatius Sinusitus!
YES, I AM TIRED, IT WAS A LONG JOURNEY, AND WE WERE EVEN ATTACKED BY PIRATES ON THE CROSSING. LUCKILY THEY STARTED ARGUING WITH EACH OTHER AND SCUTTLED THEIR OWN SHIP.

GET YOUR SERVANTS TO TAKE ME TO MY ROOMS AND SEND ME UP SOME VEGETABLE SOUP.

CERTAINLY, CERTAINLY... I'LL SEE TO IT MYSELF.

O MASTER, AM I TO SERVE UP THE BEAR BLACK Pudding AND THE STUFFED GIRAFFES' NECKS NOW?

NO! I WANT YOU TO MAKE A SMALL BOWL OF VEGETABLE SOUP.

WHATEVER WILL THEY THINK UP NEXT FOR THEIR ORGIES?

SCRAPE! SCRAPE! SCRAPE!

EMPTY, BY JUPITER!

THIS ONE'S EMPTY TOO...

AH, AT LAST! I MUST REMEMBER TO GET REFILLS.

CREEK.
LATER THAT NIGHT...

THE DOCTORS ARE HERE. QUASTOR... CAN THEY COME IN?

YES... OUCH!

IS HE THE ONE IN BED?

WHERE'S THE PATIENT?

LEAVE HIM TO ME!

DON'T PUSSH!

LET'S FEEL HIS PULSE!

HE'S IN CONVULSIONS.

MY DEAR COLLEAGUE, I SHOULD SAY, MYSELF THAT HE HAD PINS AND NEEDLES.

YOU MUST BE JOKING. MY DEAR FELLOW! HE'S FEVERISH!

MAY I REMIND YOU THAT I WAS IN CHARGE OF THE VALETUDINARIUM AT VINDONISSA?*

WELL, I STUDIED AT THE FAMOUS MEDICAL SCHOOL IN MASSILIA!

CONSIDERING YOUR LUCKY MUG, YOU OUGHT TO CONFINE YOUR ATTENDANCE TO STUDENT ORGIES!

MAYBE, BUT THE CASUALTIES IN THE VALETUDINARIUM AT VINDONISSA ARE A LOT HIGHER THAN IN ANY OF CAESAR'S CAMPAIGNS!

* MILITARY HOSPITAL AT VINDONISSA (SWITZERLAND)

WWWOOOOOM!

WE MUST BLEED HIM!

HIS ARTERES NEED AIR! WE'D BETTER BLOW SOME INTO HIM!

WHERE ARE THE CLURUBITIJAE?**

* CUPPING GLASSES

BY AESCULAPUS, THIS IS RIDICULOUS! A MAN WOULD REALLY HAVE TO BE AT DEATH'S DOOR BEFORE HE'D CONSULT A DOCTOR LIKE YOU!

WANT A SMACK IN THE AMPHORA THEN?

PEACE AND QUIET, THAT'S WHAT YOU NEED. PEACE AND QUIET!

LET ME SPEAK!
I SHOULD LIKE YOU TO SACRIFICE TO APOLLO, THE GOD OF HEALING, ON MY BEHALF.

A SPLENDID IDEA! WE WILL OFFER APOLLO OUR CHOICEST DISHES. THAT'S SURE TO CURE THE PATIENT.

ALL THE SAME, I THINK...

AS IT HAPPENS, MY COOK HAS BEEN MAKING BEAR BLACK PUDDING AND STUFFED GRAFFES' NECKS... I THINK THERE'S SOME ROAR'S TRIP E FRIED IN AUROCHS DRIPPING LEFT TOO.

WITH HONEY?

O QUAESTOR SULUSTUS, DO YOU THINK THE SACRIFICE WILL BE ENOUGH TO CURE YOU?

THAT WAS JUST A PRETEXT TO GET RID OF THOSE IDIOTS. NOW, LISTEN...

IN HIS EPILEPTIC FITS, JULIUS CAESAR OFTEN MENTIONS A LITTLE GAULISH VILLAGE NOT FAR FROM HERE... THERE'S A DRUID IN THIS VILLAGE... I THINK HIS NAME IS GEOMETRIX...

GETAFIX...

THAT'S RIGHT. GO AND LOOK FOR HIM, QUICK! AND DON'T LET ANYONE SEE YOU!

NEVER FEAR, QUAESTOR! THEY'RE FAR TOO BUSY TO STOP ME LEAVING!

SURE ENOUGH...

ALL THE SAME, WE MUSTN'T FORGET TO LEAVE A LITTLE SOMETHING FOR APOLLO.

HUH! THERE'LL BE PLENTY TO GO ROUND!

THAT'S RIGHT! WHO DO THESE GODS THINK THEY ARE, WITH THEIR HOURLY-TAOL THOU ATTITUDE?

QUAD

QUAD
NEXT MORNING IN THE VILLAGE...

YOUR MASTER'S ILL? HE NEEDS ME? I'M ON MY WAY!

ASTÈRIX! OBEŁX! WE'RE OFF TO CONDATILIM, AT ONCE! DROP EVERYTHING!

I AM ALWAYS BOUND TO HELP KICK PEOPLE, EVEN ROMANS

I DON'T LIKE ROMANS TO BE ILL. IT MAKES THEM Sicker THAN USUAL.

YOU MAY HAVE DIFFICULTY GETTING TO SEE MY MASTER.

OBELX AND I WILL SEE TO THAT. NO ROMAN EVER STOPPED US GETTING ANYWHERE YET!

DELIGHTED TO HEAR IT!

WELL, THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER MET ONE OF YOU WHO WAS!

SOON AFTERWARDS, IN THE PALACE OF GOVERNOR VARUS FLAVUS...

SPLOSH!

SENTRY! WHY HAVE YOU LEFT YOUR POST AND WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN MY COLD BAR? TRIPED FIRED IN ALBOWINS Drippin?

I... GLUG... I CAME TO WARN THAT THREE GALLOIS HAVE BROKEN INTO THE PALACE. ONE OF THEM'S A DRUID...

A DRUID?

HAS ANYONE GOT A SPOT OF HONEY?
SAY LXXXXIX ROMAN...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE GAULS?

I INVITED THEM, SO SHUT UP!

BUT THEY'RE ENEMY ALIENS... BETTER LEAVE IT TO APOLLO! WE OFFERED HIM A BIG SLICE OF BEAR BLACK PUDDING...

DID YOU HEAR, ROMAN? HE TOLD YOU TO SHUT UP!

I'M THE GOVERNOR IN THESE PARTS! I'LL HAVE YOU HOUNDED OUT OF THIS PALACE!

GUARDS!!!

A FEW MOMENTS LATER...

WELL, WE HAD A LITTLE ORGY IN THE GUARDROOM, AND NE...

WHAT'S UP?

I THINK IT'S SH...

JOIN UP THEY SHAD, SHEE THE WORLD, THEY SHAD...

NH... WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?

THESE GAULS OUT OF HERE!

BEEF! BIMM! BOOM! PLOFF! SHTONK!

MERCY!

STOP! PLEASE STOP!

COULD YOU JUST EXAMINE MINE WHEN YOU'VE FINISHED WITH YOURS, GETAFIX? THEY DON'T SEEM AT ALL WELL...

STOP!

STOP!

HMM!
Unfortunately, an essential ingredient of this potion is the Silver Star.

Silver Star?

Are they not well? Exactly! The mountain air will do them good.

Where do you have to go to find this wonderful flower?

Helvetia, for preference. The best specimens for my potion grow in Helvetia.

A small flower which grows only on the highest mountains. It's very difficult to get hold of.

Druid, I have complete confidence in you! I'll send some of my men to look for it!

But why bring foreigners into it? Let's keep this Roman!

Asterix, Obelix, would you mind going to Helvetia?

Not at all. It's some time since we took a trip abroad.

And you never know, we may find Romans in better shape on the mountains there... I'm really worried about the ones we have here.

I make just one condition: you must stay in our village as a hostage until my friends return.

No, no! Very well, Druid.
AND I WARN YOU, IF MY FRIENDS DON'T COME BACK, THE HOSTAGE WILL BE EXECUTED!

WILL HE, THOUGH?

SINCE I HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE, I WILL GIVE ORDERS FOR YOUR DEPARTURE!

BUT WE DON'T USUALLY TAKE HOSTAGES, GETAFIX...

THIS MAN SULISITUS HAS BEEN POISONED. IF HE STAYS HERE, I WOULDN'T GIVE TWO DENARI FOR HIS CHANCES OF SURVIVING. HE WILL BE SAFE FROM HIS WOULD-BE MURDERERS IN OUR VILLAGE.

BUT I CAN'T KEEP HIM ALIVE VERY LONG! YOU MUST LEAVE AT ONCE, AND HURRY! I'LL SAY GOODBYE TO THE OTHERS FOR YOU!

LOOK AFTER LITTLE DOGMATIX!

EUCALYPTUS, THERE ARE TWO REASONS WHY I DON'T WANT THOSE GAULS TO COME BACK FROM HELVETIA. FIRST, SO THEY WON'T BRING BACK THE FLOWER TO CURE THE QUAGNOISR. SECOND, IF THEY DON'T COME BACK, THE GAULS WILL EXECUTE SULISITUS!!...

SET OUT FOR GENAVA!* YOU WILL GIVE THIS MESSAGE TO GOVERNOR CURUS COUS. HE'S AN OLD FRIEND OF MINE. DON'T STOP ON THE WAY! I'LL GET THEM TO GIVE YOU A PACKED ORE...

MEANWHILE...

AND SO, THAT SAME NIGHT, A CHARIOT LEAVES CONNAIULUS FOR THE LITTLE GAULISH VILLAGE...

*GENAVA

A MESSENGER LEAVES FOR GENAVA...

AND A GAULISH WARRIOR ACCOMPANIED BY A MEANER DELIVERY-MAN, GOES IN SEARCH OF A LITTLE FLOWER OVER THE HILLS AND FAR AWAY
The new chariotways allow our friends to travel fast.

What do you mean, you’re hungry? We’ve only just left!

I’ve got an empty hole inside me, just here.

I always feel hungry when I’m travelling!

Look, Obelix! We can stop to eat there.

Meanwhile...

Yes, it’s very nice. With luck, you’ll see some accidents on the chariotway while you eat...

I shouldn’t have had that cold bear black pudding… it could be indigestible… anyway, an orgy’s no fun on your own.
bring on the cauldron of melted cheese!

everyone got it? if you lose your piece of bread in the fondue, you pay a forfeit! the first time it’s five of the best with a stick; the second time you get twenty lashes with a whip; the third time you get thrown into the lake with weights tied to your feet!

what rubbish notions you do have, divine odus!

we need them in this stratagems country. we tried holding circuses, but the wild beasts were so well fed they wouldn’t even take a bite of the prisoners!

and as for their mania for cleanliness!... an orgy is supposed to be dirty!... stop mopping that floor, by jupiter!

oh dear! i’ve lost my piece of bread!

the stick! the stick!

here you are! here you are!
OUR FRIENDS HAVE A FEW SETBACKS ON THEIR WAY, IN PARTICULAR A BROKEN WHEEL

IT'S READY

GOOD

CALL ME FAT! DID YOU SEE HIS SPARE TYRE?

WE'RE GETTING NEAR HELVETIA... LUCKILY. WE'VE LOST A LOT OF TIME

TOO MUCH TIME... IN FACT, FOR IN GENAVA...

MASTER, A VERY DIRTY MESSENGER HAS COME FROM YOUR FLAVUS. ASKING TO SEE YOU. AND THERE'S A SPOT ON YOUR Tunic JUST THERE!

NEVER MIND ABOUT MY SPOT. SEND HIM IN!

AVE!

OH DEAR! I'VE LOST MY PIECE OF BREAD AGAIN!

THE WHIP!

THE WHIP!

HOW NICE TO SEE SOMEONE REALLY DIRTY! DRAW YOUR SWORD AND JOIN OUR ORGY!

LATER, O GOVERNOR CURIOUS GODUS, I HAVE AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR YOU!

CARRY ON WITHOUT ME, FRIENDS! HAVE FUN!

BUT IT ISN'T DRY YET!

WE'RE BEING WATCHED, BUT IT'S NOT OUR FALL...
I CAN REFUSE NOTHING TO THAT OLD FRUIT FLAVOUR, AND WHAT'S MORE, DISPOSING OF A QUAESTOR WILL BE A POSITIVE PLEASURE! I'LL GIVE ORDERS TO HAVE THESE GALLS STopped AT THE BORDER... NOW LET'S GET BACK TO THE ORGY!

OH DEAR! I'VE LOST MY THIRD PIECE OF BREAD!

Hard cheese! Into the Lake with weights tied to his feet!

WHAT BARBARIANS!

YES, THE WATER OF THE LAKE IS ALL MUDDY AT THIS TIME OF YEAR!

MEANWHILE...

HERE WE ARE, ORELIX!

Meanwhile...

GAUL
ROME
EMPIRE
HELVETIA
ROME
EMPIRE
TOO

HAIT! THIS IS A CHECKPOINT! YOU ARE NOW LEAVING GAUL!

What do we do, Asterix?

These are just the formalities, Orelix. We have to go through them.

WHAT IS THE REASON FOR YOUR VISIT TO HELVETIA?

WE'VE COME IN SEARCH OF... DECURION! A MESSENGER FROM GOVERNOR CURIUS ODUS. HE WANTS A WORD WITH YOU. IT'S URGENT

NO, NO, ASTERIX, THAT'S NOT WHAT WE'VE COME TO...

PSST!

SHUT UP, ORELIX!

AHA!

All right, Gallus! You can pass!

We've come in search of mountain air.
Halt!

But you said we could pass.

I authorized you to leave Gaul, but administrative decisions taken on the other side of the border are none of my business...

You are now entering Helvetia! This is a checkpoint! Get out of your chariot.

Anything to declare?

I'm hungry.

What have you got there?

An empty hole.

Right! Search them, then you can search the chariot and after that you can search the horses.

Where did you get your clothes and weapons?

From our village in Gaul.

You ought to have declared them. Smuggling? You'll be for it! Now then...

What's in that gourd at your belt?

A potion. Want to see how it works?

Ooh yes!
I don't have to take any because I fell into the cauldron when I was a baby.

Get across that border by Jupiter, and jump to it! After those men! We must get them dead or alive! Our own lives depend on it!

Helvetia is not what it used to be. Maior e Longinquo Reverentia. You can say that again.
I SAY, ASTERIX
WHERE ARE THE
MOUNTAINS?

SSSH, OBEIX!
WE LOOK LIKE HAVING
ALL THE ROMAN GARRISONS
ON OUR HEELS PRETTY SOON.

WELL THEN.
LET'S CLIMB A MOUNTAIN.
PICK THE SILVER STAR, AND
GO HOME TO CALL.

IT'S NOT AS SIMPLE AS ALL THAT.
WE HAVE TO KNOW WHERE THE FLOWER
GROWS.

THERE'S A TOWN
ON THE OTHER SIDE
OF THE LAKE. WELL SET OFF
AFTER DARK, WE'LL FIND
HELP THERE.

OH, DO THEY
HAVE A LAKE
HERE?

LATER...

LET'S SWIM
ACROSS THE LAKE...
WE'LL GET INTO THE TOWN
MORE EASILY THAT WAY.
THE GATES ARE SURE TO
BE GUARDED.

I CAN'T SEE A
THING, ASTERIX

GOOD, OBEIX!
THAT MEANS THE
ROMANS WON'T BE
ABLE TO STOP US.

ALL RIGHT?

WHO ARE YOU,
THEN?

OBELIX

MALODORUS CASELUS

I'M GLAD I MET YOU.
I MANAGED TO GET RID
OF THE WEIGHTS ON MY
FEET, BUT I'M ABSOLUTELY
CHEERED OFF WITH THIS LAKE.
HELP ME BACK TO
THE BANK, PLEASE.

IS IT THAT WAY?
WE'RE STRANGERS HERE
OURSSELVES.

YES, DID YOU LOSE YOUR
PIECES OF BREAD IN THE
FONDUE TOO? LACUS
LENAVLAS IS FULL OF
BUTTERFINGERS.

MAYBE THE AIR
IS HEALTHY, BUT
IT DOESN'T SEEM TO
SUIT THE ROMANS.
Could you tell us the way to a hotel, Roman?

There are hotels all round the lake. Look, there's one right opposite.

And what are you going to do?

Get some dry clothes on and go back to the orgy. What fun!

What a fondle, Asterix?

I expect it's some kind of local orgy.

Yes, I have got a room free, even though they're holding the IOTC—The International Conference of Tribal Chieftains—in Genava just now.

There was a barbarian delegation which didn't want their room. They said it was too clean.

You must be here.

I'd better tell you, you should have come over the bridge. Julius Caesar destroyed it, but it's been rebuilt now.

Meanwhile, in the Governor's Palace...

You bumbling idiots! I must have those Gauls!
Alert all the garrisons! The garrisons of Aventicum, Vindonissa, Augusta Raurica, Octodurum, Soisodurum! Search Genava! Get moving!

I'm back, O Divine Odulix!

Still, a funny thing happened to me in the lake. I met two men who helped me out, and...

Two Men?

My piece of bread! You made me drop my piece of bread in the cauldron!

Never mind your piece of bread! Where are they?

Oh, you mean the two men? They went to the hotel by the bridge.

Guards! Guaaaards!

What about the stick? Then? You're not playing fair if I don't get the stick!

At that moment...

Here's your room!

This hourglass keeps very good time. Helvetian made! But you have to watch it. Whenever I shout 'Cuckoo' it's time for all the hotel guests to turn their hourglasses over.

I'll take your shoes and clean them. Sleep well.
WE'RE NOT LOOKING FOR ACCOMMODATION. HAVE YOU ANY DAMP GAULS STAYING HERE?

NO. I'VE GOT SOME SIGAMBI, AEDUI, TRIBOCI, A CHARIOTLOAD OF IBERIANS, A FEW BRITONS AND SEQUIANI, ALL QUITE DRY.

WHAT ABOUT THOSE MUDDY FOOTPRINTS?

THEY'RE MINE. I OFTEN GO FOR STROLL AT NIGHT BY THE SIDE OF THE LAKE... THE AIR'S SO GOOD ROUND HERE.

ARE THOSE YOUR SHOES?

YES, I'VE GOT SEVERAL PAIRS... LOOK...

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT, I BELIEVE YOU!

WE'RE GOING TO SEARCH THE OTHER HOTELS. IF YOU SEE ANY GAULS, LET US KNOW. THEY'RE DANGEROUS TROUBLEMAKERS.

I'VE MESSED UP MY OWN FLOOR! I'M MADE MUDDY FOOTPRINTS ON MY OWN PREMISES! I MIGHT HAVE PUT MY FOOT IN IT! ALL BECAUSE OF THOSE BLASTED ROMANS!

I CERTAINLY WILL.
WAKE UP! THE ROMANS ARE AFTER YOU! FOLLOW ME! YOU MUST HIDE!

ALL CLEAR! LET'S GO!

OH!

excuse me! i'll be back in a minute!

?!

CUCKOO!

Their punctuality is starting to get me down!

where are you taking us?

somewhere safe, for the moment. after that we'll see

the bank is shut at this time of night!

ZURK! OPEN UP, IT'S ME, PETITLUIX!

ZURX! DO YOU KNOW WHAT TIME IT IS?
GOOD NIGHT! SLEEP TIGHT!

I MUST HURRY BACK TO THE HOTEL, OR I'LL BE ONE CUCKOO LATE

YAWN...!

I'M GOING BACK TO BED

BOF!

ASTERIX, WE CAME HERE TO CLIMB MOUNTAINS, AND HERE WE ARE UNDERGROUND!

YOU'RE SO RIGHT, OBELIX!

WHAT'S MORE, I'M HUNGRY, ASTERIX. I DON'T LIKE BEING HOLED UP HERE WITH A HOLE INSIDE ME!

ON THE WHOLE, I AGREE, I'M HUNGRY TOO. THEY FORGOT TO GIVE US ANYTHING TO EAT

I DON'T KNOW WHETHER WE'RE ALLOWED TO OPEN THE SAFE FROM THE INSIDE...

WHY NOT ASTERIX? IT'S OUR SAFE!

TCHONK!

ZURIX!

HMNM?

WE'VE CAME BACK UP BECAUSE WE'RE HUNGRY

HOW ON EARTH...? VERY WELL! GO BACK DOWN, I'LL BRING YOU A LITTLE SOMETHING

YOU CAN USE THIS LAMP FOR LIGHT AND TO MELT THE CHEESE

EEEEK! HOW TERRIBLE! A SAFE WITHOUT A DOOR!

?
YOU CAN'T STAY IN A SAFE WITHOUT A DOOR... YOU'LL HAVE TO OPEN ANOTHER ACQUINT

OPEN UP, IN THE NAME OF CAESAR!

THE ROMANS!!! GET INTO THIS SAFE... QUICKLY!

WHOSE SAFE IS IT?

I DON'T KNOW AND I DON'T WANT TO KNOW. GET IN, QUICK!

I THINK I CAN GUESS YOUR CUSTOMER'S NATIONALITY...

JUMP IN, AND MAKE IT SNAPPPPY!!!

ARE YOU GOING TO OPEN UP, BY JUPITER?!

POW!

COMING, JUST COMING!

ASTERIX, I'M JUST GOING TO ASK ZURIK IF HE'S GOT ANY CHEESE WITHOUT HOLES IN IT

I DON'T KNOW... WE CAME HERE LOOKING FOR MOUNTAINS AND WE END UP IN A HOLE EATING HOLES!

SHUT UP AND EAT UP, OBELEX!

SHHIIIIH!
Very sorry to disturb you at this time of night, but we've had orders to search the whole town for two outlaws. There are only safes down here, and they're as safe as the Bank of Britain.

I know all about that, and I'd be the last one to blame you, right, we're off.

What the...?

What about that?

Er... well... theves got in and took everything out of this one...

Er... not that there's a lot in it, of course... just a few souvenirs from Egypt... sentimental value only, anyway, I'm not here to give you my curriculum vitae... not are you're not!

Is that what you call as safe as the Bank of Britain? I've got a safe here myself, you know!

I'm busy tonight, but tomorrow morning I'm coming in to close my account. I keep a close eye on this one. What's inside is very precious to me.

Boohooohoo!

Hear that, obelix? Someone really does seem to be down in the dumps.

Are you sure there are any mountains in this dump?

Shut up! Silence! Discretion is our watchword!
Cuckoo! Shut up! Cuckoo! Wake up, Chéri, he said Cuckoo!

I say, what a fearful bore!

And you know what I say to him...?

If only we could turn these hourglasses over several times in advance!

Get them out of here! They've brought dishonour on my name! They made me lie about the security of my establishment!

Half a cuckoo later...

I've had just about enough of these galls!

Calm down, Zurix. They made me dirty my hotel.

It's enough to make you want to become neutral.

Good morning, Zurix. I've come for the galls.

I've brought you disguises. With these, you won't be spotted in the crowd.

That's a disguise??

Carrying those weapons, you'll look like Helvetians going to their annual camp every year. We have to do our military service for a nones and a calends.

Zurix ban... Slany!

Alone at last! How ghastly, having to mix with all those foreigners. My horn runneth over...
There they are! Those are the ones who pulled me out of the lake the other night!
...AND I MUST SAY THAT I THINK WE CAN CO-EXIST WITH THE ROMANS. ALL WE NEED IS A LITTLE GOODWILL ON BOTH SIDES, AND RESPECT FOR INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY...

LET'S SIT UP, SIT DOWN AND IMITATE THE OTHERS!

OF COURSE, WE SHALL HAVE TO MAKE GREAT EFFORTS...

...BUT THE ROMANS HAVE ALREADY GIVEN AMple EVIDENCE OF THEIR DESIRE FOR PEACE...

I SEE THE LITTLE TOUGH ONE!

PAX ROMANA! THAT COULD BE THE FORMULA FOR FUTURE PEACE, AND IF WE FORGET OLD HATREDs AND RESENTMENTS...

...I SEE BEFORE US A PERIOD OF UNTROUBLED CALM....

...AND THAT IS WHY I SAY TO YOU...

OBELIX!

THAT PEACE IS POSSIBLE...

CUCKOO!

...AND MUST BE POSSIBLE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION
GET UNDRESSED!
KEEP YOUR WEAPONS!
JUMP TO IT! NUNC EST BIBENDUM!

FROM AN ODE OF HORACE

YOU DON'T SAY!
IF I WAS AS WELL VERSED IN SWIMMING AS POETRY, I SHOULDN'T BE WORRIED!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, YOU IDIOT?

I'M FLOATING, OF COURSE! THAT'S ALL I CAN DO! I TRAINED FOR THE INFANTRY, DIDN'T I?

LOOK! THERE'S A BOAT! LET'S GO ROUND THE OTHER SIDE!
WHERE HAVE THEY GONE? THEY'VE DISAPPEARED!

THEY MUST REALLY BE GETTING INTO DEEP WATER!

FOLLOW THAT BOAT!

YOU'RE OBVIOUSLY NOT FROM ROUND HERE, OR YOU'D KNOW THE BRIDGE CESAR DESTROYED HAS BEEN REBUILT!

WE KNOW THAT. THANKS FOR THE RESCUE. WE WERE ALL AT SEA IN THERE!

THAT'S A NATIONAL SONG. YOU'RE IN LUCK. YOU CAN HEAR OUR GLEE CLUB!

WE'VE GOT A BARD AT HOME WHO SINGS A BIT LIKE THAT!

OLELIX! COME BACK UP HERE IMMEDIATELY!
WHERE'S THAT BIG BOAT GOING, FISHERMAN?
IT'S TAKING SOME OLD SOLDIERS TO THE OTHER SIDE FOR A REGIMENTAL REUNION. THEY HAVE AN OUTING TO THE MOUNTAINS ONCE A YEAR.

LET'S GO AND TELL GOVERNOR CIRIUS ODUS! FOLLOW ME!

WE REALLY SHALL HAVE TO PUT UP A NOTICE ABOUT THAT BRIDGE.

WE'VE GOT THEM NOW!

YES, WE'VE GOT THEM NOW! I WANT ALL AVAILABLE TROOPS SENT TO THAT REUNION! I WANT THOSE GAULS DEAD OR ALIVE!

MEANWHILE...
I'M SURE THESE JOLLY HELVETIANS WILL HELP US FIND THE FLOWER TO CURE THAT ROMAN HOSTAGE IN OUR VILLAGE...

HERE WE ARE. THERE ARE OUR FRIENDS.

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY! SO GAY AND PEACEFUL!

YES, WE ALL LIVE IN HARMONY HERE!
THANKS FOR EVERYTHING, PETITSUX!

WE'RE LOOKING FOR A FLOWER, A SILVER STAR. COULD YOU HELP US TO FIND IT, PLEASE?

CERTAINLY! WE KNOW OUR WAY ABOUT THE MOUNTAINS, BUT FIRST FOR SOME SPORTS!

YOU CAN EAT YOUR APPLE LATER, SONNY. IT'S TIME FOR YOUR SWISS ROLE NOW. HANG UP THE TARGET!

WE MUST SPEED UP THE WORKS A BIT!

I'VE CAUGHT A GOLD FROG THAT WRETCHED LAKE!

AFTER YOU... VISITORS SHOOT FIRST

VERY WELL! AFTERWARDS WE'LL GO AND FIND THE FLOWER

SNIFF!

A... AAAAA...

TISHOO!

OBELIX! YOU NEARLY CAUSED AN ACCIDENT!

I KNOW, BUT IT CLEARS MY HEAD

GOOD SHOT! A BULLSEYE!

A VERY GOOD SHOT, AND YET SOMEHOW I FEEL A BIT LET DOWN...

ME TOO. CAN'T THINK WHY
RIGHT! SHALL WE GO AND GET THE FLOWER NOW?
FIRST WE EAT AND DRINK, THEN WE'LL GO AND PICK FLOWERS!

COME ALONG! THE CHEESE IS NEARLY MELTED!
COULDN'T THEY MELT A FEW WILD BOAR FOR A CHANGE?

LET'S GET A MOVE ON! THE SOONER WE EAT, DRINK AND SING, THE SOONER WE'LL GO AND LOOK FOR THE FLOWER. WE MUST MAKE THE MOST OF THE START WE HAVE ON THE ROMANS.

YOU'LL SEE HOW I'M GOING TO SPEED UP THE WORKS, BY TOUTATIS!
WHAT THE...

HEY, STRANGER, THAT'S NOT THE WAY TO...

RIGHT! NOW LETS DRINK!
HAVING SEEN THE WAY YOU EAT, I DON'T THINK YOU'LL NEED A GLASS.

SUITS ME!

AND NOW FOR THE SHING... HIC!... SHINGING!
OYVELELEIT... HIC!... LILILIL!

OBELIX!
OBELIX!
THAT'S JUST LIKE YOU GALIUS! YOU DO EVERYTHING TOO QUICKLY. IT TAKES 16 HOURS TO DO WHAT YOUR FRIEND HAS JUST DONE IN A FEW SECONDS!
There are hundreds of Romans crossing the lake!

Obelix! Obelix!

I must go and find the silver star before they get here!

We'll help you!

Some of you will have to stay here to hold back the Romans! Go and find the cauldron!

Hold them back! There are so many of them!

Obelix!

There's enough magic potion left to give you the strength to stop them!

Magic potion?

Come on! Show me where the flower is!

It's just that we have a rather large problem!

It's your friend. I don't know whether he's sober enough to climb a mountain. You can't leave him there. It looks messy and untidy.

I've got it! Bring a long rope. We'll tie ourselves together and pull Obelix along. With your help and the magic potion, we'll manage it.

And so that it works. It has to be a rope made of wire. Which is still used to this day...

This is a good idea...

Yes, but I'd have thought the rope went round your neck...

Bring the cheese! I'll just have time to melt before the Romans arrive!
OLEELEFIIII!

THEY'VE GOT ELEPHANTS!

NOT BAD, THIS MAGIC FONDUE!

HERE COME THE ROMANS!

LET'S TREAT THEM TO A LITTLE WAR SONG!

DON'T BE AN IDIOT! THEY'RE SINGING WHEN I WAS POSTED TO GALLI, I KNEW A BARD WHO SANG A RIT LIKE THAT!

BY ORDER OF GOVERNOR CURISIS ODUS, REPRESENTATIVE OF JULIUS CAESAR, LET US PASS

YOUR QUARRELS ARE NO CONCERN OF OURS. WE WANT TO REMAIN NEUTRAL, BUT...

CHARGE!

Yodel!

Tchrrrrac!

HT US, YES, BUT YOU MIGHT LET US DO THE SHOUTING!

Bang!
TCHAC!

CRUMP!

AND WHILE THE BATTLE STILL RAGES...

LOOK OVER THERE! THE OUTLAWS ARE CLIMBING A MOUNTAIN. LET'S GET AFTER THEM WHILE THE OTHERS ARE BUSY HERE!

RAF! BING!

WE GO SWIMMING IN THE LAKE, WE GO CLIMBING MOUNTAINS...

WHAT DID YOU EXPECT? WE'RE NOT ON HOLIDAY, YOU KNOW!

FIRST YOU HIT ME AND THEN YOU BANDAGE ME UP!

IT'S OUR Vocation. WE LOOK AFTER ALL COMBATANTS, WHATEVER THEIR NATIONALITY...

I'VE DONE IT! I'VE CAUGHT ONE!
Help me! Quick!

We're coming!

I'm going to pull you up!

Eeeeh!

Pull him down here!

I'm trying to!

Hold tight! Don't lose sight of them. We'll go round the mountain and catch them on the other side!

Hey! Don't let me down!

Hmmm?

There, there! Go back to sleep! It's all right!

Zzzzzz!
THREE HOURS LATER...

GAL! LOOK TO YOUR RIGHT!

THE SILVER STAR!

I CAN'T REACH IT! I NEED ANOTHER SWORD!

ANYBODY GOT A SWORD?

ANYBODY GOT A SWORD?

ANYBODY GOT A SWORD?

I'VE GOT ONE. TAKE IT AND STOP SHOUTING. YOU COULD EASILY START SOMETHING OFF.

I'VE GOT IT, OBELIX! WE'VE DONE IT!!

EYE, INFANS' BUNTING, PATER'S GONE A-HUNTING...

BABY LATIN

LETS GO ON CLIMBING! WE'RE NEAR THE SUMMIT!

S O O N A F T E R W A Y S ....

YES! A ROMAN! SO WHAT!! I'VE HELD YOUR FRIEND'S HAND ALL THE WAY UP THIS DANGEROUS CLIMB... YOU'RE NOT GOING TO MAKE TROUBLE FOR ME NOW?

A ROMAN!?
THE DIFFICULTY IS
THAT OBELEIX IS STILL
OUT COLD, I’LL HAVE TO
TAKE HIM IN TOW.

GOODBYE, HELVETIANS!
I SHALL NEVER FORGET WHAT
YOU DID FOR US, AND I’LL TELL
OBELEIX ALL ABOUT IT!

EEEEEH!

THERE THEY ARE!

HALT, GAUL! IN THE NAME OF
GOVERNOR CURIUS ODUS,
CAESAR’S REPRESENTATIVE,
HALT!

WATCH OUT!
You alright, centurion?

I'm all right, I just keep wishing I was back in Egypt.

Bonk!

The silver star, Obelix! We've found it! Let's get back to the village!

Are we in the drink again?

And how is the unfortunate quaeceptor, O Druid?

I've managed to keep him going, O governor Varius Flavius. What a pity that your men aren't back. You'll have to execute him. After all, hostages are hostages.

It's ready!

Excellent! Just add a few drops of magic potion, and give him the mixture to drink.

What's ready?
I'M READY, THAT'S WHAT!

NOW... KEEP CALM, QUÆSTOR SIMULITIUS...

WHEN YOU COME DOWN I SHALL CHECK YOUR ACCOUNTS, AND THE NEXT ORGY YOU HAVE WILL BE IN THE CIRCUS AT ROME, WITH YOUR FRIEND CURULIS ODLIS!

ROMAN, YOU HAVE BEEN OUR GUEST AND NOT OUR HOSTAGE. YOU HAVE BECOME OUR FRIEND, AND SO FOR THE FIRST TIME...

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...YES, FOR THE FIRST TIME A ROMAN IS INVITED TO ONE OF THOSE BANQUETS WHICH TRADITIONALLY CELEBRATE THE RETURN OF OUR FRIENDS, WHO ARE HAPPY AND PROUD. FOR THEY REALISE THAT EACH ADVENTURE ENRICHES THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE.

TELL US ABOUT HELVETIA, OBELIX. WHAT'S IT LIKE?

FLAT

THE END