BOOK 35
GOSCINNY AND UDERZO

Asterix
AND OBELEX
ALL AT SEA
IN JULIUS CAESAR'S PALACE IN ROME...

IDIOT!
MORON!! HALF-WIT!
YOU GREAT GORMLESS GOOF!

YOU...
OH, WORDS FAIL ME!...
YOU...YOU SILLY SAUSAGE!!!

QUEEN CLEOPATRA,
YOU SEE BEFORE YOU
THE SILLIEST SAUSAGE
IN ROME!

DEAR, DEAR! MY SUPERIOR OFFICER ADMIRAL CRUSTACIUS IS GETTING TICKED OFF!
SHOULD BE WORTH A FREE TICKET TO SEE THE LIONS IN THE CIRCUS...CLOSE UP!

HE'S HAD THE FINEST SHIP IN THE ROMAN NAVY STOLEN FROM UNDER HIS NOSE! MY OWN GALLEY!!!
WELL, YOU SEE, CAESAR, THE GALLEY SLAVES ARE REVOLTING...

AND SO ARE YOU! STOP BEEFING!

I HOPE NOT, CRUSTACIUS, OR YOU'LL BE IN DIRE STRAITS YOURSELF! GET MOVING, AND PUT SOME BEEF INTO IT!

I'LL SORT EVERYTHING OUT. O WONDER OF WONDERS, DIVINE CAESAR!

VICE-ADMIRAL NAUTILUS, YOU'RE A MORON AND A HALF-WIT AND A GREAT GORMLESS GOOF AND YOU'D BETTER GET THAT GALLEY BACK OR YOU'LL BE IN DIRE STRAITS YOURSELF!

BIT OF A STICKY INTERVIEW, EH, ADMIRAL?

IF WORD GETS OUT THAT A BUNCH OF SLAVES STOLE MY OWN GALLEY, I'LL BE THE LAUGHING STOCK OF THE ENTIRE ANCIENT WORLD!

BUT YOU ALREADY ARE O WONDER OF WONDERS, DIVINE CAESAR!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, I ALREADY AM?

WELL, REMEMBER THOSE INDOMITABLE GAULS STILL HOLDING OUT AGAINST...

LOOK YOU CAN LEAVE THE PAST HISTORY OF THE GALIC WARS TO ME!
AFRICANS, I'HISPANIANS!, LUSITANIANS, BELGIANs, GERMANS AND BRITONS NEVER WILL BE SLAVES!

NEVER!!!

I, SPARTAKIS THE GREEK, SWEAR BY ALL THE GODS OF OLYMPUS...

...THAT I WILL LEAD YOU UP THE PATH TO LIBERTY!

LET'S HOPE IT'S NOT A GARDEN PATH, HOMBRE!

ZOTTO HOPE I!

RIGHT, SO THIS IS A LIBERTY BOAT, BUT JUST WHERE DO WE GO ASHORE?

YES, WE'RE ALL IN THE SAME BOAT, BUT WHERE'S IT BOUND?

I SAY, OLD BOY TIME FOR A SPOT OF BRAINSTORMING, WHAT?

VE VILL OUR HEADS TOGETHER, PUT, JA!

RIGHT! EVERYONE'S AT LIBERTY TO STATE HIS PREFERENCE, WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO ASHORE?

¡HISPANIA! LUSITANIA BELGICA GERMANIA AFIRCA BRITAIN!

ONE BY ONE, FOR ZEUS'S SAKE!
YOU'D LIKE THE WAY AFRICA'S SUNNY FOUNTAINS ROLL DOWN THEIR GOLDEN SAND!

HISPANIA'S THE PLACE! IT'S SPAINFULLY OBVIOUS!

WE'D FIND A BETTER PORT IN LUSITANIA.

Huh!

EVEN IF CAESAR RUES US TO BELIGICA, HE MIGHT MEET HIS WATERLOO THERE!

HEIM, HEIM! THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HEIM!

LISTEN, WE HAVE TO TAKE REFUGE SOMEWHERE THERE ARE NO ROMANS! BUT AS WE ALL KNOW, THE ROMANS ARE EVERYWHERE!

I SAY, I'VE JUST HAD A BRAINWAVE, OLD FRUIT!

MY UNCLE ANTICLIMAX IN BRITAIN TOLD ME ABOUT SOME INDOMITABLE GAULS IN AN ARMORICAN VILLAGE WHO KNOCK THE ROMANS FOR SIX WITH A MAGIC POTION! JOLLY GOOD, WHEEZE, WHAT?

JOIN THE LEGIONS, THEY SAID... IT'S A MANS LIFE IN THE LEGIONS...

?!

IF THAT'S SO, THEN LET'S MAKE FOR THIS GAULISH VILLAGE! EVERYONE AGREE?

& SEE ASTERIX IN BRITAIN

AND SO CAESAR'S MAGNIFICENT GALLEY CHANGES COURSE AND SETS OFF FOR ARMORICA TO TAKE REFUGE WITH THE INDOMITABLE GAULS.

WE AGREE!!!
I DREAMED THAT JULIUS CAESAR DECIDED TO WITHDRAW ALL THE GARRISON SURROUNDING THE VILLAGE.

I CAN'T GET TO SLEEP WITHOUT AT LEAST FOUR INSIDE ME!

WELL, IT WAS ONLY A NIGHTMARE! EVEN IF YOUR DREAM CAME TRUE...

I HAD A TERRIBLE NIGHTMARE LAST NIGHT, ASTERIX!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, CAME TRUE?!

WHY NOT? WE MIGHT FINALLY GET PEACE WITH HONOUR!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, CAME TRUE?!

WHY NOT? WE MIGHT FINALLY GET PEACE WITH HONOUR!

OH NO, YOU WEREN'T, MISTER ASTERIX!

YOU WERE INSULTING THE MEMORY OF VERCINGETORIX!

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RAISE THE ALARM!! THE ROMANS ARE ABOUT TO ATTACK!!

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A GOOD THING THE ROMANS HAVE GOT MORE SENSE THAN YOU, MISTER ASTERIX!

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THAT'S FUNNY! THERE WAS NOTHING TO SUGGEST THEY WERE GOING TO ATTACK!

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YOU WERE INSULTING THE MEMORY OF VERCINGETORIX!
I SAW THEM!
THE GARRISON OF ALL
FOUR FORTIFIED CAMPS
ARE DRAWN UP ON THE
OTHER SIDE OF
THE FOREST!  

RIGHT! WE MUST BE
PREPARED! CAN YOU
DOLE OUT THE MAGIC
POTION, GETAFIX?

I MADE
TWO CAULDRONS
JUST IN CASE,
ALTHOUGH ONE
IS PLENTY!

HURRY UP!
NEXT!

SOMETHING
WRONG, OBElix?

THE EFFECTS
OF THE POTION
NEVER CEASE TO
AMAZING ME!

WE KNOW IT HAD
A PERMANENT
EFFECT ON HIM...
BUT WHAT WOULD
HAPPEN IF WE
DRANK SOME
MORE NOW?

THERE'D BE DANGEROUS
SIDE EFFECTS, ASTERIX,
AND ALL MY SKILL WOULD
BE POWERLESS TO
COUNTERACT THEM!

POOR OLD
OBElix! I EXPECT
GETAFIX WOULDN'T
GIVE HIM ANY
MAGIC POTION,
AS USUAL!

THIS IS ODD,
O DRUID! OBElix IS
MISSING!

YOU KNOW HOW TOUCHY
HE IS! HE MUST HAVE
GONE OFF IN A SULK, BUT
I'M SURE HE'LL BE THE
FIRST TO GO FOR
THE ROMANS.
AS IT HAPPENS, THE ROMANS ARE NOT FAR AWAY. THE FOUR GARRISONS ARE DRAWN UP ON PARADE, BEING REVIEWED BY THEIR NEW COMMANDER, VICE-ADMIRAL NAUTILUS.

ANOTHER BRASS HAT SHOT OUT FROM ROME!
LOOKS LIKE HELL, HAVE THE BRASS TO MAKE US FIGHT THOSE GAULS!

LEGIONARIES, I'M HERE TO PUT SOME BACKBONE INTO YOU! DISCIPLINE IS THE STRENGTH OF THE ROMAN ARMY!
AND FOR A START...

STAND TO ATTENTION!
YOU DO JUST THAT. BECAUSE WE'RE GOING TO ATTEND TO YOU, ROMANS!

WHOOOSH!

TELL ME, ROMAN, WHY THIS FULL-SCALE ATTACK?
BUT... BUT WE WERE ONLY REHEARSING THE PARADE TO WELCOME ADMIRAL CRUSTACIUS!
THEN TELL YOUR ADMIRAL CRUSTIFERUS THAT IF THERE'S ANY PARADING AROUND HERE...

... WE DO IT!
SO MUCH FOR THE STRENGTH OF THE ROMAN ARMY!

YEAH... I'VE A GOOD MIND TO TURN MY TCDA AND SIGN ON WITH THE GAULS!

THE ROMANS ARE GETTING FEEBLER... THESE ARE JUST SMALL FRY!

YES... THEY DO LOOK A BIT BATTERED.

OH, VERY FUNNY!

YOU KNOW, GETAFIX, IT'S NOT LIKE OBELIX TO PASS UP SUCH AN OPPORTUNITY FOR FUN!

YOU'RE RIGHT. I'M WORRIED.

I'M SURE HE MUST HAVE HAD AN ACCIDENT!

ASTERIX, A TERRIBLE IDEA HAS JUST OCCURRED TO ME!

QUICK! FOLLOW ME!

OH, HELP!!! JUST AS I FEARED!
He's drunk the whole of the second cauldron of magic potion!

But... but this is terrible! His whole body has turned to granite!

I fear the worst, Asterix!

Speak to us, Obelix! Say something!

We can't leave him like this!!

Poor old Obelix! More of a statuesque figure than ever!

I will now sing a dirge for a rock star!

Watch out... you're between a rock and a hard place, sunshine!

Show a little respect for poor Obelix, can't you??!

All right, no more jokes in dubious taste! Carry him to his hut while I gather some herbs. I'm going to attempt the impossible!
LATER, AFTER GATHERING HERBS IN THE FOREST, THE DRUID RETURNS TO HIS HUT.

POOR OLD OBELIX! THIS IS DREADFUL! APPALLING!

WHAT ON EARTH...?!

SURELY THEY'D NEVER DARE...

IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO GET HIM OUT!

PHEW!

A GOOD THING WE'RE STILL FEELING THE EFFECTS OF THE MAGIC POTION!

SO IS HE, IT SEEMS!

BANG!

BANG!

RIGHT, EVERYBODY OUT! ASTERIX WILL SIT UP WITH HIM ALONE, WHILE I TRY TO MAKE AN ANTIDOTE.

OH, OBELIX, YOU STUPID IDIOT! WHY DID YOU IGNORE GEPAFIX'S WISE ADVICE? WHAT'S TO BECOME OF DOGMATIX AND ME IF YOU STAY STONY AS A MENHIR FOR EVER?
Night has fallen on the little village. Everyone is deeply upset by the incident. Light shows in only two huts...

One is the home of the druid, who is not very hopefully brewing a potion of which he alone knows the secret...

And the other is poor Obelix's house. His friend Asterix is still sitting up with him.

In the small hours...

Has he moved at all?

I'm afraid not.

Now to wait for the potion to take effect... and hope!

Aren't you sure it will work, then?

I've never had a case like this before... but we must leave no stone unturned!

You're the best druid in the universe, Getafix! Dogmatix and I are sure you'll manage to cure Obelix!

May Toutatis hear you, Asterix! May Toutatis hear you!
THE FACT IS
NAUTILUS?

WELL, YOU SEE, WE
WERE JUST
PEACEFULLY
PARADING...

... WHEN
ALL OF A
SUDDEN...

WELL, THEY ARE
A HANDFUL...
I WAS MUCH
STRIKED BY IT
MYSELF, ADMIRAL!

ARE YOU
SAVING THAT
HANDBLFUL OF
GAULS
DID THIS
TO YOU?

YOU CALL THESE ROMANS?
GONE INTO A DECLINE ALREDAJ
HAVE THEY???

WELL, ADMIRAL
CRUSTACIUS, CAN
YOU TELL ME WHAT
WE'RE DOING IN THIS
JUPITER-FORSAKEN
COUNTRY?

OUR FLEET IS FOLLOWING CAESAR'S
GALEY AT A DISTANCE. IT IS NOW
APPROACHING THE COAST OF ARMORICA,
AND OBVIOUSLY THE MUTINEERS WILL TRY
TO TAKE REFUGE IN THE VILLAGE OF
INDOMITABLE GAULS!

I GET IT!
AS SOON AS THEY
DESEMBARK AND
LEAVE THE SHIP,
WE GRAB IT
BACK!
BRILLIANT
IDEA!!

NEVER MIND!
FOLLOW ME.
I HAVE TO
TALK TO
YOU.

HO, HO, HO! AND I'LL
SOON PERSUADE THE
GAULS TO HAND THOSE
MUTINEERS OVER!

ER... THAT
MIGHT NOT BE
SUCH A BRILLIANT
IDEA!
STILL NO IMPROVEMENT?
NO CHANGE AT ALL!!

CLICK.
LET'S TRY SOMETHING ELSE!

MAYBE A PSYCHOLOGICAL SHOCK...
SOME STRONG EMOTION...

I'M SORRY.
IMPEDIMENTA...
I'D HOPED THAT PERHAPS...

HMMPH!
AND ME THE BEST COOK IN THE VILLAGE. THOUGH I SAY IT MYSELF!

LET'S TRY ANOTHER EXPERIMENT. PANACEA IS HOME IN THE VILLAGE VISITING HER PARENTS. I'VE ASKED HER TO DROP BY.

PANACEA, MY DEAR, COME IN!

POOR OBELIX! EVEN IN THIS STATE HE RETAINS ALL HIS SEDUCTIVE CHARM!

NO NEED TO OVERDO IT...

SO STONED-HEARTED! I'M HUMILIATED. THOUGH I SAY IT MYSELF!

STILL NO LUCK, ASTERIX.
MEANWHILE, AT SEA OFF THE COAST OF ARMORICA...

ROMAN GALLEY RIGHT BEHIND US!!!

IT'S BEEN FOLLOWING FOR SOME TIME. WE MUST REACH OUR GOAL QUICK!

SURE YOU'LL RECOGNISE THE VILLAGE OF THESE INDOMITABLE GAULS?

DEAR BOY, IT'S THE ONLY GAULISH VILLAGE WITH A HUT AT THE TOP OF A TREE! EASY-Peasy, WHAT!

VILLAGE AHoy! I'VE SIGHTED THE SITE!

LET'S LAND AND HIDE THE GALLEY UP A CREEK AND SO WE DON'T RUN THE RISK OF BEING LEFT UP THE CREEK WITHOUT A PADDLE, I'LL GO AHEAD TO THE GAULISH VILLAGE ON MY OWN.

ON THE PURSUITING GALLEY... MUTINEERS COMING IN TO LAND, SIR!

EXCELLENT! WE'LL SEND THE PRE-ARRANGED SIGNAL TO ADMIRAL CRUSTACUS, WAITING IN THE CAMP OF AQUARIUM!

BY MEANS OF ROMAN GENIUS, IGNORAMUS!

SEND THE SIGNAL!!

BUT HOW CAN YOU SEND HIM A SIGNAL, CAPTAIN?

DO YOU SACRIFICE A WHOLE GALLEY EVERY TIME YOU SEND A SIGNAL, CAPTAIN?
There's the signal, Admiral!

That's expected! Now, to make off with Caesars galley on the quiet, without rousing those Gauls!

...so we thought you might let us stay here until the Romans forget about us!

You came to the right place, Spartacus.

...egions! !?

Now I don't need anyone else... oomph!... to make me look ridiculous!

Quick! We must rouse the village. I'll dole out more magic potion!

Quick, Asterix! The Druids handing out magic potion.

What, again? What for?

To get Caesar's galley stowed away. Caesar's what?

So isn't anyone going to help me up? I mean, I am your chief, you know!!!
FUNNY SORT OF CUSTOM, DRINKING SOUP BEFORE YOU LEAVE YOUR VILLAGE, WHAT'S IT FOR?
YOU'LL SOON FIND OUT!

BY POSEIDON, WHAT A MIRACLE!

BY NEPTUNE, WHAT A CHEEK!!

I SAY, OLD BOY, THIS GAULISH VILLAGE IS A BIT OF LUCK WHAT?
I FEEL QUITE CARRIED AWAY!

QUICK! WE MUST LOSE NO TIME IN WARNING ADMIRAL CRUSTACIUS!

SOON AFTERWARDS... AVE, ADMIRAL CRUSTACIUS! YOU WERE RIGHT AS USUAL.
THE MUTINEERS DID COME AShORE NEAR THE GAULISH VILLAGE... BUT THE GAULS HAVE TAKEN CAESARS GALLEY INTO THE VILLAGE FOR SAFE KEEPING!

IT WENT UP IN FLAMES AS PRE-ARRANGED FOR THE SIGNAL, O ADMIRAL!

I DO HOPE YOU ENJOY THE CIRCUS, CAPTAIN!

BY ALL THE GODS OF HADES!!! I HOPE YOU TOOK CARE TO ANCHOR YOUR OWN SHIP WHERE THOSE SAVAGES CANT GET AT IT!!
IF ONLY THERE'S BEEN SOME CHANCE FOR THE BETTER IN POOR OBElix...

OOOF! WOOOF! WOOOF!

I'M HUNGRY!

OBEliX! AT LAST!!!

WOOF! WOOF! WOOF!

WHAT THE...?!

TELL ME IT ISN'T TRUE!!!

OF COURSE IT IS!

I AM HUNGRY!

WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T MOVE! I'LL BE BACK RIGHT AWAY!

THIS CHANGE IN OBElix IS CRAZY... RIDICULOUS!

THREE ROAST BOARS, ASTERIX!

WELL DONE!

OBEliX HAS REVIVED...

BUT HE'S ALSO REVERTED TO CHILDHOOD!

I MUST HAVE MADE A MISTAKE SOMEWHERE!
ER... LOOK HERE, GETAFIX, COULD YOU BREW ME A LITTLE REJUVENATION POTION? JUST TO MAKE ME TWENTY YEARS YOUNGER...

THE WAY MY POTIONS ARE WORKING THESE DAYS, IT MIGHT WELL MAKE YOU TWENTY YEARS OLDER!

ASTERIX!!! THIS IS TERRIBLE! HELP! HELP!

QUICK!!! I'M COMING!

SEE HOW THIN I'VE GOT! THIS IS APPALLING!

YOU HAVEN'T GOTTEN THINNER, OBELEX, YOU'VE JUST RETURNED TO CHILDHOOD. NOW YOU SEE WHAT COMES OF BEING SO GREEDY!

BoOMOOHOOH! DON'T LIKE IT? WANT TO EAT BOARS AND THUMP ROMANS SAME AS USUAL!

CALM DOWN, OBELEX! I'M SURE GETAFIX WILL BE ABLE TO FIX IT!!

HE DOESN'T SEEM TOO PLEASED TO HAVE GONE BACK TO CHILDHOOD!

THOUGH YOU WOULDN'T THINK IT MADE MUCH DIFFERENCE TO HIM!

THE FIRST THING TO DO IS TRY AND FIND SOME CLOTHES TO FIT YOU.

MRS. GERIATRIG! DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO COULD MAKE SOME CLOTHES FOR...

I'M A GOOD NEEDLEWOMAN MYSELF! I'LL SEE TO THIS DEAR LITTLE BOY... COME ON, DIDOURMS!

DON'T WANT TO!
ISN'T HE JUST DARLING? YOU MUST BE NEW HERE! WHAT'S YOUR NAME? THIS WAY, SWEETIE-PIE!

DON'T WANT TO!

FUNNY THING... YOU REMIND ME OF POOR OBELOX! NOTHING LIKE AS FAT, OF COURSE!

IN THE FIRST PLACE HE IS NOT FAT, JUST WELL-COVERED!

AND NOW WE’LL TAKE THAT LITTLE TOWEL OFF SO I CAN MEASURE YOUR DEAR LITTLE TUMMY!

DON'T WANT TO!

LATER... HE MUST BE RELATED TO OBELOX! THERE'S SUCH A FAMILY LIKENESS, I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE FUN TO MAKE HIM STRIPED BREECHES TOO!

YOU NEVER GAVE ME TIME TO EXPLAIN! THIS LITTLE BOY IS OBELOX, UNDER THE EFFECTS OF ONE OF OUR DRUIDS' POTIONS!

GUTTERSNIPES!!! SCAMPS! YOU LITTLE IMPS!!!

THUD!

HERE ARE SOME ROAST BOARS TO TAKE YOUR MIND OFF YOUR TROUBLES, OBELOX!

THERE ARE STILL TWO LEFT, YOU KNOW. YOU DID ASK FOR THREE!

...I'M NOT HUNGRY ANY MORE!

POOR LITTLE OBELOX! I HEARD WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU! NEVER MIND, IT'S NOT SO BAD!

SMACK!

BOOHOOHOO! I'M FINISHED! I CAN'T EVEN EAT THREE BOARS AT A SITTING!

...THERE! FEELING BETTER NOW?

WHEE!
THAT ONE OUGHT TO DO!

BOOOOOOOO!
I DID SO WANT TO GIVE PANACEA THIS LOVELY PRESENT!

YOU SEE, DOGMATIX. I'M NOT THE MAN I WAS! I CAN'T EAT THREE MEASLY LITTLE BOARS OR LIFT THE TINIEST LITTLE MENHIR!

WELL, I KNOW WHAT I MUST DO... GO AND LIVE IN THE FOREST ALL BY MYSELF! YOU CAN COME TOO IF YOU LIKE, DOGMATIX!

O GETAFIX, I HAVEN'T SEEN OBELIX FOR HOURS! I'M AFRAID HE MAY BE UP TO SOMETHING SILLY AGAIN!

WELL, AT LEAST HE CAN'T BE DRINKING ANY MORE MAGIC POTION. I'M RIGHT OUT OF STOCK!

BUT WHO KNOWS. THE POTION MIGHT GET HIM BACK TO NORMAL!

I WON'T TAKE THE RISK! OBELIX HAS SUFFERED TOO MANY SEA CHANGES FOR ME TO SEE HIM CHANGE ANY MORE!

Meanwhile...

THE ADMIRAL'S GETTING ON MY NERVES, INSISTING ON FINDING GAULISH HOSTAGES! I KNOW ONLY TOO WELL WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF WE FIND A SINGLE ONE!
JUST THINK, DOMINIC! I COULD ONCE SEND A WHOLE ROMAN LEGION FLYING, AND NOW I'M JUST A SHADOW OF MY FORMER SELF!

SOMEONE'S COMING! QUICK, HIDE!!!

CLING! CLANG! CLANG!

WHO WENT CLING CLANG CLANG?

THERE'S MY HOSTAGE!!!

GOODY, GOODY, GOODY: LOTS OF LOVELY ROMANS!

GET HIM!

I DON'T LIKE TAKING CHILDREN HOSTAGE, BUT I HAVE NO CHOICE!

JUST LOOK AT THE LITTLE TITCH! HE THINKS HE'S THE TERRIBLE OBELIX!

BUT I AM OBELIX!!!

AND I'M QUEEN CLEOPATRA!

OUCH!

TAKE HIM AWAY. NOT EXACTLY A RAT CAT OR A HOSTAGE, BUT HE MAY DO!

DO WE REALLY HAVE TO TAKE THIS DOG TOO?

YOU WAIT TILL I'M BIG AND JUST WELL-COVERED AGAIN! THEN YOU'LL SEE!!!
Dogmatix is behaving oddly! That means Obelix must be in danger!!

Woof! Woof!

You wait here, Dogmatix. I must tell the others!

Obelix is in danger!! I'm off to help him!

This must be the Romans' doing! We'll be with you, Asterix!

Wait while I make another cauldron of potion! I think you're going to need some more!

You will be among the few visitors to our village ever to have drunk the magic potion!

It's a great honour for us, O venerable Druid!

And finally...

Dogmatix will lead us straight to Obelix's kidnappers!

I knew it! That's where Obelix is being held prisoner!
THEY... THEY'RE COMING!

WHO? MORE OF THE TOP BRASS?

CRAAAASH!

NO! THE GAULS!

NOT AGAIN! I'M GETTING REALLY BRASSED OFF!

IF I'D HAD THIS POTION WHEN I WAS A GLADIATOR, I COULD HAVE DONE SOME REAL DAMAGE! IT'S A KNOCKOUT!

JOIN THE PARTY, ROMANS! WHAT A SPLENDID BASH!

I WAS ONLY ASKING WHO FOR A GAME OF SQUASH IS!

ASSURE YOU, SIR, I'M NOT A RACIST!

NO, YOU'RE NOT FIT FOR ANY RACE AT ALL! TAKE THAT!

LOOK, JUST WHAT ARE YOU AFTER?

THAT YOUNG GAUL YOU KIDNAPPED!

WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO BEFORE? ADMIRAL CRUSTAUS HAS SHIPPED HIM OFF TO ROME AS A BARGAINING COUNTER TO SWAP FOR CAESAR'S GALLEY!
Sure enough, the admiral's ship, all sails set, is making for Ostia, the port of Rome, with a poor little Gaul below decks and feeling very low...

Oh, Asterix, please come and help me out of this!

What are we waiting for? We must catch up with the Roman ship and rescue Obelix!

My crew and I are ready to pursue the admiral's galley, Asterix!

I'll come with you. I've just had an idea which might solve your problem.

Here's your supply of potion, Asterix! I've filled this barrel too, because I won't be able to brew any more on the voyage!

We'll keep it away from the barrels of drinking water, to be on the safe side!

And soon afterwards...

We'll soon overtake the admiral's ship, thanks to the effects of your potion, O Druid!

Yes, and once we've rescued Obelix I'll tell you my idea, Asterix!
Here's your lunch, Sonny boy! Don't want it? I want wild boar noodle!

Says he wants wild boar with noodles!

What? Wild boar? Oh yes, and what else?! Hell eat what we give him and like it or lump it!

Allow me to point out that if your excellency persists in refusing this young Gaul nourishment, we can't count on retaining our only bargaining counter!

You have a point. Right! Summon my chef Gluttonus and bring me the young Gaul!

Gluttonus is the best chef in Rome! Hell cure that young barbarian of his bad taste!

For starters, I suggest hawkmoth caterpillars preserved in acacia honey, followed by a pan of earthworms fried in castor oil... as the main dish, cows' udders cooked plain or in a sauce.

Don't want that! Want wild boar!

??!

We don't pig out on boring meat like that in my kitchen, by Apicius! Want wild boar!

The only one of his kind and he had to cross my path! GNNNNN!

Put in at the first port and find me a wild boar before I make him swallow...

...wild boar!
WE SHOULD HAVE
CAUGHT UP WITH THE
ADMIRAL'S GALLEY AGES
AGO, GETAFIX!
YOU'RE RIGHT.
IT'S ODD!

WE'VE LEFT THE MARE BRITANNICUM
(THE ENGLISH CHANNEL) AND NOW WE'RE RONDELING
THE ISLAND OF SENA (THE ILE DE SEIN), AND
WE HAVEN'T SEEN A SAIL ON THE HORIZON!
THIS ISN'T NORMAL!

FOR GOOD REASON...
THE ADMIRAL'S GALLEY IS ONLY JUST LEAVING
THE HARBOUR OF
BREST (BREST), WHERE IT HAS HIDDEN
FROM SIGHT.

RIGHT,
NOW YOU'VE
GOT YOUR
BOAR!!!

SO
EAT UP AND
SHUT UP!!!

DON'T WANT
BOILED BOAR!
WANT ROAST
BOAR!

THIS IS
TOO MUCH FOR
AN ARTIST LIKE ME!
I'M THROWING IN
MY APRON!

I'LL MURDER HIM!
I'LL STRANGLE H....
HRRG!
HAAAAARF!!!
HERRRKK!!!

SAIL AHoy
RIGHT AHEAD!

PHEW!
AT LAST!

ROMAN
SHIP AHoy
RIGHT AHEAD!

NO GAULS
 CELEBRATING
THEIR USUAL
RITE OF
PASSENGE?
NO, WE'RE IN THE CLEAR! THAT'S CAESAR'S GALLEY!

LET'S SHOW OUR LOYALTY! YOU NEVER KNOW... AVE CAESAR!

STOP!!! FULL ASTERN!
THEY'RE... THEY'RE RUNNING US DOWN!!!

WHAT ON EARTH DID I SAY WRONG?

AND QUITE SOME JUICY INJURY TOO! AVE CAESAR! THAT'S WHAT COMES OF HYPOCRISY!

SORRY WE BUMPED YOU, BUT WOULD YOU BE KIND ENOUGH TO TELL US IF YOU'VE MET ANOTHER ROMAN GALLEY?

IT'S... IT'S THE LITTLE TOUGH!

YOU'RE THE FIRST SHIP WE'VE MET, AND WE'RE SHIPPING WATER SO FAST I HAVE A SINKING FEELING WE WON'T MEET ANY MORE!

ROMAN SAIL RIGHT BEHIND US! MUST BE BEHIND TIME TOO!

ROMAN SAIL RIGHT AHEAD, ADMIRAL!

BUT IT CAN'T BE THE ADMIRAL'S GALLEY. THAT'S BEHIND US!
THE ADMIRAL'S GALLEY!!!

CAESAR'S GALLEY!!!

THE GAULS' GALLEY!!!

LETS GET AT THOSE KIDNAPPERS!

I... I ORDER YOU TO DEFEND US!

WE'RE ONLY IMMIGRANT SLAVE WORKERS, YOU KNOW! YOUR INTERNAL DISPUTES ARE NONE OF OUR BUSINESS!

SO YOU'RE SCARED OF THIS LITTLE TITCH?

CAN'T THINK WHY!

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH THAT YOUNG GAUL?

I... I FORBID YOU TO LAY A FINGER ON ME! I MAY BE RESPONSIBLE, BUT I'M NOT GUILTY!

THE YOUNG GAULS DOWN IN THE HOLD! GULP!

DOGMAIX!! AT LAST!!!

PAF! PIE!

OBELIX! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

YES, JUST A BIT HUNGRY!

DEAR OLD OBELIX! LET'S MAKE THE MOST OF THIS... I WON'T ALWAYS BE ABLE TO PUT MY ARMS AROUND YOU!

YOU... YOU THINK NOT ASTERIX?
ROMANS, PREPARE TO GET YOUR DESERTS FOR TAKING A DEFENCELESS CHILD HOSTAGE!

I STILL FIND IT DIFFICULT TO REALIZE IT'S ME HE MEANS!

I HAVE A FEW ACCOUNTS TO SETTLE WITH THESE ROMANS! I WANT THEM TO EAT THE BOILED BOAR THEY TRIED TO STUFF DOWN MY THROAT!

COME ON, IT'S NOT THAT BAD! IF I ADDED A FEW NICE PLUMP SLUGS MARINATED IN CURRANT JUICE I'M SURE THEY'D GO OVERBOARD FOR IT IN ROME!

HA! HA! HA!

LOOK, WE'VE GONE OVERBOARD HERE AND NOW!

YEAH... YOU WEREN'T GOING TO FORGET US SHIPWRECKED MARINERS, WERE YOU?

COME UP ON BOARD THIS VESSEL, CAPN! I HAVE A PROPOSITION TO MAKE YOU!

AN HONEST ONE, I HOPE?

BY WAY OF COMPENSATION, WE'LL GIVE YOU JULIUS CAESAR'S GALLEY AND ALL ON BOARD!

WHAT WILL I GET OUT OF THAT?

CAESAR WILL BE SO GLAD TO RECOVER HIS GALLEY, HIS ADMIRAL AND HIS VICE-ADMIRAL, HE'LL PAY YOU ANY RANSOM YOU ASK!

YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME!

SHUT UP AND EAT UP!

GIDDY GOAT'S HORN, LAD, I KNEW WE'D DO BUSINESS SOME DAY! IT'S A BARGAIN! FIFTY-FIFTY, RIGHT?

VERY GENEROUS OF YOU, CAPN!

GOOD LUCK, CAPN!

CHEERS, LADDIE!

AND YOU'LL WAIT A LONG TIME TO SEE THE COLOUR OF YOUR FIFTY PERCENT! NO, NO, NO!
WE DON'T CARRY IDLE HANDS ON THIS SHIP! GET DOWN TO THE OARS LIKE EVERYONE ELSE!

YOU UP THERE, BOY! COME DOWN! I NEED SOMEONE TO BEAT THE DRUMS!

GOODY! I ALWAYS WANTED TO BE A DRUMMER!

WE HAVE TO SPEED UP THE STROKE RATE! CAN YOU BEAT OUT THAT RHYTHM ON THE DRUMS?

I GOT RHYTHM, CAP'N! I'LL DRUM IT INTO 'EM!

THAT WILL DO!

GET BACK UP TO THE CROW'S NEST, YOU! PEGLEG WILL SUIT US BETTER!

PEGLEG! HUH! HE WOULDN'T DRUM MUCH RHYTHM INTO THEM! THEY'LL ALL BE RESTING ON THEIR OARS!

PUT YOUR BACKS INTO IT, ROMANS!
THE ADMIRAL'S GALLEY CAPTURED BY THE SAILS IS GOING IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION FROM THE GALLEY NOW BEING SAILLED BY THE PIRATES.

YOU SAID YOU HAD AN IDEA FOR HELPING OBEIX, O DRUID!

THAT'S RIGHT! IT'S TIME TO TAKE AN IMPORTANT DECISION, ASTERIX!

SPARTAKIS, I BELIEVE YOU'RE A GOOD SAILOR?

SO DO I! I'M GREEK, YOU KNOW!

WILL YOU AND YOUR CREW AGREE TO TAKE US TO A DISTANT ISLAND?

WHAT'S THIS DISTANT ISLAND CALLED?

ATLANTIS!

WOW! SOMETIMES THOUGHT TO BE THE CANARY ISLANDS.

I THOUGHT THAT LEGENDARY CONTINENT SANK BENEATH THE WAVES LONG AGO!

IT DID, BUT A GROUP OF OFFSHORE ISLANDS WAS LOST. THE LARGEST IS STILL INHABITED BY THE LAST ATLANTEANS!

BUT WHAT DOES THIS ATLANTIS PLACE HAVE TO DO WITH OBEIX?

THE ATLANTEANS ARE DESCENDED FROM A VERY ANCIENT CIVILIZATION, FAR MORE ADVANCED THAN OUR OWN. OBELIX COULD BENEFIT FROM THEIR SKILLS!

WE AGREE, DRUID! WE'LL SIT COURSE FOR ATLANTIS!

ER... THE CREW WOULDN'T MIND BENEFITING FROM YOUR POTION AGAIN.

OF COURSE!

I'LL FETCH SOME FROM THE RESERVE BARREL!

AND THIS LAST BARREL IS FULL OF WATER TOO... BUT THEN...

THAT MUST MEAN...

GETAFIX! WE'VE GOT NO MORE MAGIC POTION!

AND THIS TIME YOU CAN'T BLAME ME!
**This is Terrible!**
We must have left the barrel of poison behind in the other galley's hold!!

**And now it's out of reach!!**

**Never mind, we'll manage without! The voyage will take longer. That's all!**

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**And so the long voyage south begins, a voyage of no interest but for the fact that it is long and of no interest.**

**We've rounded the coast of Hispania, the coast of Lusitania, and now we're sailing down the coast of Africa! We ought to be there soon!**

**Sure enough, at dawn... Land ahoy! Land ahoy!!!**

---

**At last you see before you the legendary island of Atlantis!**

**Runny way of navigating.**

**These Atlanteans are crazy!**
By Toutatis, do you see what I see, O druid?

It certainly is strange to be welcomed by no one but children!

Children, can you tell us who is the ruler of this island, and his name?

Our high priest, he's absolutely fabulos!

Follow us! We'll take you to our leader.

I'm sure the crew will find us!

I knew these Atlanteans were crazy!!

It's a dream! It just has to be a dream!

Now then, children! Leave our foreign visitors in peace and go and play somewhere else!

Thank you for welcoming us, high priest! Absolutely fabulos! We have come from distant Gaul. I am the druid getafix, and these are my companions, asterix and obelix!

Are you out of your tiny mind?

Coming to play with us?
HOW IS IT THAT EXCEPT FOR YOU, HIGH PRIEST, ATLANTIS SEEMS TO BE ENTIRELY INHABITED BY CHILDREN?

ALL THOSE CHILDREN WERE ONCE ADULTS WHO WANTED TO GO BACK TO CHILDHOOD!

YES, I KNOW, THESE ADULTS ARE CR.... IF ONLY THEY AT LEAST HAD FLYING WILD BOAR!!!

GO BACK TO CHILDHOOD? HOW COULD THEY POSSIBLY DO THAT?

OVER MANY CENTURIES THE ATLANTINES LEARNED AMONG OTHER THINGS THE SECRET OF REJUVENATION AND ETERNAL YOUTH.

THE SKILLS OF THE ATLANTINES ARE THE SOLE REASON FOR OUR VOYAGE!

YOU MEAN YOU WANT TO GO BACK TO CHILDHOOD TOO?

NO, QUITE THE OPPOSITE! OBELIX HERE LOST HIS ADULT APPEARANCE BY ACCIDENT. CAN YOU GIVE IT BACK TO HIM?

HE WANTS TO GROW OLDER? THAT'S FUNNY...

UNFORTUNATELY, I KNOW THE SECRET OF THE ELIXIR OF YOUTH BUT NOT THE ELIXIR OF AGE. I'M AFRAID I CAN'T HELP YOUR FRIEND!

!!!
OH DEAR! SO WE CAME ALL THIS WAY FOR NOTHING! WE'LL JUST HAVE TO GO HOME TO OUR VILLAGE!

ALL THE SAME, HIGH PRIEST, I MUST SAY I THINK YOUR SKILLS ARE ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS TOO!

I'M ONLY SORRY THEY'RE NO HELP TO YOU!

SOMETIMES I ENVY OUR FRIEND OBELIX! HE DOESN'T KNOW HOW LUCKY HE IS, GETTING HIS CHILDHOOD BACK! WELL, WE'LL BETTER BE OFF; THE CROW WILL BE WAITING.

OF COURSE! YOU'LL BE REALLY FREE MEN HERE!

...IF THE HIGH PRIEST AGREES, THE CREW AND I WOULD LIKE TO STAY. ATLANTIS SEEMS TO BE A LAND OF LIBERTY!

I'M SURE YOU UNDERSTAND, ASTERIX!

I SAY, OLD BOY, WE HAD SOME GOOD TIMES, WHAT?

IT WAS NICE MEETING A LITTLE BUNDLE OF JOY LIKE YOU... AND YOUR SEA-DOG THERE!

WE SWEAR NEVER TO MENTION IT, ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS!

THE INGREDIENTS FOR THE MAGIC POTION AREN'T AVAILABLE ON THIS ISLAND!

WELL, WE STILL HAVE THE CONTENTS OF MY GOUDI IF NECESSARY!

CAN WE ASK YOU ONE MORE FAVOUR, HIGH PRIEST?

SO NOW WE CAN ONLY RELY ON THE KINDNESS OF AESOLUS TO GET US HOME.

I THINK I CAN GUESS WHAT IT IS!

IT'S A SHAME YOU'RE GOING! WE HAVE A GREAT TIME HERE!
YOU KNOW, I'D HAVE EXPECTED SPARTAKOS AND HIS FRIENDS TO COME AND SEE US OFF!

I MOVE A VOTE OF THANKS AS OUR FRIENDS MOVE AWAY... IT'S A MOVING MOMENT!

SECOND THAT, HOMBRE!

RIGHT, WHAT WOULD YOU LOT LIKE TO PLAY NEXT?

MEANWHILE, ON ANOTHER SEA AND IN ANOTHER GALLEY...

LAND AHoy! ROME SWEET ROME!

AT LAST!

I'M ALL IN! FOR PITY'S SAKE, I'M PARCHED!

GET HIM A DRINK! WE HAVE TO LOOK AFTER THIS CUSTOMER... HE'S WORTH HIS WEIGHT IN GOLD!

IT'S HIGH TIME WE LANDED! THIS IS THE LAST BARREL OF DRINKING WATER!

YOU'RE IN LUCK, ROMAN! DRYING OUTS NO FUN! WELL, MERC EST BISEVOLIUM!
GIDDY GOAT'S HORNS! WHAT THE...

AND A TWO...

AND A THREE...

THREE MEN OVERBOARD!

LOOK, I ONLY GAVE HIM A DRINK OF WATER!

FELIX QUI POTUIT RERUM COSMOSECER CAUSAS.

NEVER MIND THE POTTY CAUSIS NOW!

I FEEL IN TERRIFIC FORM!

WHY, ADMIRAL, ANYONE MIGHT THINK YOU'D BEEN DRINKING THAT GAULISH MAGIC POTION!

BY JUPITER... ELEMENTARY, MY DEAR CRUSTACIUS! IT'S THE MAGIC POTION!

QUICK! I MUST GET A MOVE ON BEFORE THOSE IDIOT TWIGS!
Far from Caesar's galley...

Roman galley making right for us!

Admiral's galley right ahead!

We can't avoid them without oarsmen, Asterix!

That's odd, I thought it was making for Rome?

I still have my gourd of magic potion, remember?

It's the Gauls!

This is odd... let's play safe and send a warning shot across their bows before we board them!

I'm covering you! Don't be afraid!

Who's afraid of anyone?

Be careful, Asterix! I have a nasty foreboding!

Paf!

Surrender, Gauls!

What have you done with the admiral and his crew? Who are you?

You'll soon find out if you touch another hair of my friend Asterix's head!
The sea here is teeming with sharks... they'll have a field day! Throw this Gaul with the yellow whiskers overboard!

NOOOOO! DON'T DO IT!!! ASTERIX!

I've an idea we're going to have fun again at last, Dogmatix!

AND MY NAME IS OBELIX! ROW FOR YOUR LIVES!

MUMMMMMY!

AND A THREE!

NO ONE WILL EVER BELIEVE THIS!
NO IDEA. IT COULD HAVE BEEN THE EFFECT OF SEEING ASTERIX IN DANGER. BUT WHO DID THAT TO YOU... THE ROMANS?!

NO, THE SHARKS. BUT I TOOK A MOUTHFUL OF POTION AND THEY DIDN'T PUT THE BITE ON ME!

YES, I KNOW THIS IS GETTING REPETITIVE, BUT IT'S A QUESTION WORTH ASKING!

GOOD THING I BROUGHT YOUR CLOTHES ALONG. JUST IN CASE!

YOU'RE THE BEST FRIEND I KNOW. ASTERIX!

AAAHHH! IT'S GOOD TO GET BACK TO MY OWN SIZE!

AND IT'LL BE GOOD TO GET HOME! HIGH TIME WE WENT BACK TO THE VILLAGE!

DOGMATIX AND I WILL ROW!

MEANWHILE, FAR AWAY...

THE ADIRAL'S BEEN DOWN THERE AN AWFULLY LONG TIME! I'D BETTER TAKE A LOOK!

?!
WHAT THE... HE'S TURNED TO STONE!!!

BUT... BUT NOW I CAN TAKE CAESAR HIS GALLEY BACK ON MY OWN! HE'LL PROMOTE ME TO ADMIRAL AT LEAST!

Look, Captain! A ship flying the pirates' ensign is coming in!

Load the balistas!

When I give the word...

FIRE!

Swoosh!

?!?

Crash!
LET'S BE MAGNANIMOUS AND PICK UP THOSE STUPID, IMPUDENT AND PRETENTIOUS PIRATES.

WHY... WHY, IT'S YOU, VICE ADMIRAL NAUTILUS!

SO IT IS! AND IF YOU WANT TO SEE THE ADMIRAL, HE'S DOWN BELOW!

THIS IS A DISASTER! JULIUS CAESAR'S OWN GALLEY!!!

YES, AND WHICH OF US IS GOING TO TELL HIM ABOUT IT?

NOT VERY FAR FROM HOME NOW, OBELIX!

YOU KNOW, I'D LIKE TO MAKE A LITTLE DETOUR BEFORE WE REACH THE VILLAGE, ASTERIX!

I'VE AN IDEA OBELIX WANTS TO PAY THE CAMP OF AQUARIUM A VISIT.

WELL, WE OWE HIM SOME FUN!

ADMIRAL'S GALLEY IN SIGHT!

WHAT... WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

RAISE THE...
CRAAAAASH!

ALARM...

YOOHOO! IT'S ME!
I TOLD YOU I'D BE BACK WHEN I WAS BIG AGAIN AND JUST WELL COVERED!

YOU KNOW, OUR FRIEND OBEUX IS JUST A BIG BABY AT HEART!

IT'S THAT CRAZY FAT MAN!!!

AND SOON AFTERWARDS...

IT'S THESE LITTLE THINGS THAT MAKE YOU FEEL LIFE'S WORTH LIVING!

AQUARIUM FORTIFIED CAMP
IN MEMORY OF THE SILLIEST SAUSAGE IN ROME

I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU CAESAR! YOUR ADMIRAL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR LOSING YOUR GALLEY, AND YOU PUT UP A STATUE TO HIM RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ARENA?! THE LIONS DON'T EAT MUCH GRANITE, IT'S TRUE, BUT NOWADAYS YOU NEVER KNOW. SOMETHING TELLS ME THINGS MIGHT CHANGE, AND THEN MAYBE...

AND A LITTLE LATER AND MUCH FURTHER AWAY... THE VILLAGE OF INDOMITABLE GAULS IS HAPPILY CELEBRATING THE RETURN OF IT'S HEROES, ONE OF WHOM IS BACK IN HIS OWN SHAPE... A SHAPE WHICH, AS WE KNOW, IS EXTREMELY COVERED.

TO BE SENSIBLE, OBELIX! YOU'LL HAVE NIGHTMARES AGAIN! SCRUNCH! NO FEAR OF THAT. SCRUNCH! I HAVE A LOT OF CATCHING UP TO DO.... SCRUNCH!

SO IT SEEMS THE MUTINEERS HAVE FOUND ASYLUM IN ANOTHER LAND OF LIBERTY. MY DEAR GETAFIX? THE ONLY LAND OF LIBERTY I KNOW IS RIGHT UNDER OUR OWN FEET. MY DEAR VITALSTATISTIX!

THE END