Asterix and The Actress

Written and illustrated by Albert UDERZO
WE HAD GOOD HUNTING, OBELIX!

GOOD FUN WITH THAT ROMAN PATROL, TOO, RIGHT, DOGMA?IN?

WOOF!

THE...THE VILLAGE IS DESERTED!

?!

CAN THEY HAVE GONE OFF FIGHTING ROMANS WITHOUT US?!

BUT THE ROMANS HAVE CLAMMED UP RECENTLY! THEY SEEM TO KNOW THEIR PLACE! THIS IS FISHY!

YOO HOO! ANYONE AT HOME?

WOOF! WOOF! WOOF!

!!!
I forgot it was our birthday today!

That's right... the two of us were born on the same day!

Yes, but I got in first by a few minutes! I carried more weight!

Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha!

And to celebrate the occasion we have a little surprise for you!

Ooh, I can guess what it is... HEE! HEE! HEE!

Oh yes? So what do you think it is?

A whole Roman legion just for the two of us!

No, no, Obelix! Even better than that!

Mummy!

Nooo!
A GREAT BIRTHDAY BANQUET IS HELD IN THE GAULISH VILLAGE.

HOW DID YOU GET HERE? IT MUST HAVE BEEN A Tiring JOURNEY.

NOT SO MUCH Tiring AS INCONVENIENT!

YES, WE WERE OFFERED OUT-PRICE TICKETS ON A LUSITAN DELIVERY CART CARRYING COPPER UNGHIENN! THEY WERE GOING FOR A RONG!

SO LUCKILY WE SOON HITCHED A LIFT ON AN HSV!

WHAT'S AN HSV?

A Heavy Gaulish VehicLe, ickle Obelixkins!

AND JUST HOW HEAVY DO YOU THINK THIS GAULISH FIST IS?

WHY DIDN'T OUR DADS COME WITH YOU?

THEY'LL BE JOINING US LATER. THEIR ARMORICAN SOUVENIR BUSINESS IS IN FULL SWING JUST NOW.

YES, THIS IS THE MIDDLE OF THE CONDATUM TOURIST SEASON.
OH, AND YOUR DAD SAYS HE'S SORRY HE CAN'T BE WITH US, AND HE'S SENT YOU THIS SWORD AS A PRESENT!

JUST WHAT I WANTED! JUDGING BY THE PRECIOUS STONES ON ITS SWORD, IT MUST HAVE BELONGED TO SOME RICH ROMAN OFFICER!

ACTUALLY IT BELONGED TO A DRINK... A FORMER LEGIONARY. HE SHAPED IT WITH US FOR A BARREL OF BARLEY BEER!

HE LEFT US THIS HELMET TOO. YOU CAN ADD IT TO YOUR COLLECTION, OBELIX! WINKING!

ANYBODY WANT TO TRY THIS HELMET ON? IF SO I'M READY TO JAM IT ON HIS HEAD, HARD! THAT'LL TEACH HIM TO TRY THINGS ON WITH ME!

MEANWHILE, IN... CONDATUM...

GAULISH POTTERY IS AN EXCELLENT INVESTMENT, BOUND TO APPRECIATE IN VALUE. IT'S GOT A GREAT FUTURE AHEAD OF IT!

WE HAVE MEMHINS IN ALL SIZES AVAILABLE. HAND-CRAFTED, SIGNED, CARVED FROM PURE ARMORICAN GRANITE!

ROLL UP, FOLKS, ROLL UP! WHO DOESN'T HAVE A DOLMEN YET? EASY SELF-ASSEMBLY!
A GOOD DAY'S
SAVINGS! WE DID WELL TO
STAY ON IN CONDENSATUM FOR
A BIT. OBELESCOTIN!

YOU'RE RIGHT, ASTRONOMIC!
AND NO REASON WHY WE
SHOULDN'T HAVE A BIRTHDAY
PARTY WITH OUR LADS LATER!

HOW ABOUT
CRACKING OPEN
A BARREL OF BARLEY
BEER?

GOOD IDEA...
WITH A COUPLE
OF CRACKING
GOOD ROAST WILD
BOAR TOO!

YOU STUMP OLD
FOOL, YOU MEAN YOU
RECOGNIZE THEM?

LOOK... NO! I KEEP
TELLING YOU... NO, HAEC.
HOOH... IT'S THEM!
YOU MUST BE AS DRUNK
AS A SHARK... I MEAN
DEAR AS A ROOST!

BACK IN
THE VILLAGE.

NO ONE'S DONE ANY HOUSE-
WORK AROUND THIS HOT IN DONKEY'S
HEARS! NOW LISTEN, ASTERIX, BOY,
WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO FIND
A NICE WIFE?

UH... ER... OH,
MUM, I DON'T SEE
WHY I'D WANT
A WIFE!!

STUFF AND NONSENSE!
YOU DON'T LOOK WELL
EITHER! TIME YOU
STOPPED LIVING THIS
WILD LIFE, MY BOY!

OBELESCOTIN!
400 HOO!
DINNER'S
READY!

YOUR DIET ISN'T VARIED ENOUGH
SO I'VE MADE YOU SOME
GOOD NOURISHING SOUP
TO GIVE YOU A LITTLE
SURPRISE!

COMING COMING!
MMM. YUM, YUM!

PROBABLY NOT
A NICE ONE
EITHER!

WELL, OBELESCOTIN, WHEN ARE
YOU GOING TO GET YOURSELF
A NICE WIFE TO COOK YOU
HEALTHY, WELL-BALANCED
MEALS?
AND IN CONDATUM...

UP, AND YOU GET SOME THING A BIT STRONGER THAN GOAT'S MILK HERE...HEEEEHEEE!

MIND YOU! SOMETHING MISS THE VILLAGE OF OUR CHILDHOOD... HEHEHE!

THAT SH RIGHT... HEHEHE THE VILLAGE OF OUR YOUTH...

IT'S WHERE OUR LADS LIVE TOO... HEHEHE!

OH DON'T OOS! JUST THINKING OF IT MAKES ME ALL WEEPY... HEHEHE!

?!?!

BY TOTATIS!!! WE'VE BEEN BURGLED!

THEY'VE TURNED THE PLACE OVER, BUT I DON'T SEE ANYTHING MISSING!

THAT'S ODD. MAYBE THEY WERE AFTER SOMETHING SPECIAL.

DEAD RIGHT! AND WE DIDN'T FIND IT!

YOU'RE COMING WITH US TO PAY A CALL ON PREFECT BOSQUIS VENUS!

IT'S LUCKY FOR YOU WERE A COUPLE OF OLD WRECKS NOWADAYS! LITTLE TITCH!

BUT JUST YOU WAIT TILL OUR SONS HEAR ABOUT THIS!

EVER BEEN HIT ON THE HEAD WITH A MESSER BEFORE?
AVE Prefect, bogus genius! These are the men suspected of doing the deal with the defendant.

RECOGNISE THEM TREMBENDIGITALUS? HIC!... YEAH YEAH BET... HEBEC HEBEC!

AS A SOLDIER WHO HAS SERVED IN THE LEGIONS AREN'T YOU ASHAMED OF ABUSING YOUR COMMANDER'S TRUST? WELL YEAH... BUT... NO! ... I WAS THIRSTEY!

PUT THIS WINESKIN IN A DEEP, DARK CELLAR. MAYBE IT WILL IMPROVE WITH A LITTLE TIME IN THE COOLER!

THAT WINE HAS BEEN FOUND GUILTY OF STEALING A SWORD AND A HELMET, THE PROPERTY OF A VERY HIGH-RANKING ROMAN DIGNITARY! CAN YOU TELL ME WHERE THOSE ARMS ARE?

YOU BET WE CAN...

IN THE HANDS OF OUR SONS ASTERIX AND OBELEIX!!!

AND YOU'LL SEE A THING OR TWO WHEN THEY TURN UP! YOU JUST WAIT!!!

IT'S A LITTLE QUICK OF THEM... THEY'RE ALWAYS SNITCHING FROM THOSE PLAINTY ALMOS FOR GODS' SAKE!

OH NO! I NEVER EXPECTED TO FIND THAT THE SWORD AND HELMET HAD FALLEN INTO THE HANDS OF THOSE TWO FEROCIOUS GAULS!!!

BACK IN THE HOMES OF THE FEROCIOUS GAULS, LIFE IS PASSING PEACEFULLY BY... ALTHOUGH AT TIMES...

STOP WAVING YOUR ARMS ABOUT, ASTERIX OR I'LL NEVER GET YOUR HAIR WASHED!

BUT MUM, THERE'S SOAP IN MY EYES!
I've invited some of the neighbouring young ladies and their daughters to take a cup of goat's milk. Do try to be polite to them, Rikkins!

Good afternoon, ma'am! My son and I are so pleased to see you!

How are you? You know my son already, of course! Do come in, everyone!

Oh! What a graceful girl! Your daughter is!

Well well... here's someone who must set plenty of hearts beating!

I don't say so because she's my daughter, but... as for my little girl, you wouldn't believe how talented she is!

Oh, you really ought to taste my daughter's cooking...

By the way, just how old is your son?

I have to confess that qualities such as my child's are rare...

I don't say so because she's my daughter, but... as for my little girl, you wouldn't believe how talented she is!

Enough!!!

No!! I'm not ready for the responsibility of marriage yet!!!
HA! HA! HA! HEH! HEH! HO! HO! HO! HO!

OH NO! NOT YOU TOO!

WELL, A BIT OF A LAUGH DOES YOU GOOD!

YOU'RE RIGHT, BUT I CAN'T DENY I'D BE GLAD TO SEE OUR FATHERS TURN UP SOON.

But in the prison of the prefecture in condatum...

TREMENDOSERUS, who did that sword and helmet belong to?

POMPEY, the consul expelled from the Roman senate by JULIUS CAESAR...

OH, I'VE GOT A TERRIBLE THIRST!

So what's he doing in Gaul?

I heard he's trying to raise an army against his great enemy, Caesar...

...I'm just dying for a drink!

Well? So what keeps you from recovering that so-and-so helmet and that so-and-so sword, bogus genius?

O great Pompey, no one can approach the village of those invincible Gauls, it's surrounded by Caesar's garrisons!

You've got a point! If Caesar had evidence of my presence in Gaul, our plans would be scuppered!

We must act with cunning and the utmost discretion! I think I have the answer, o noble Pompey!
RIGHT! VANILLA AND I HAVE DECIDED TO HAVE A REAL BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR YOU TWO!

BUT...

...BUT WE'VE ALREADY HAD A BIRTHDAY BANQUET FOR THE WHOLE VILLAGE!

IF YOU ASK ME, THAT WAS JUST AN EXCUSE FOR THE USUAL BINGE!

I LIKE A BINGE EVEN WHEN IT'S NOT MY BIRTHDAY!

WELL THIS TIME WE'RE GOING TO INVITE ALL THE BANDS FROM THE SURROUNDING VILLAGES TO PLAY MUSIC SO THAT THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF OUR OWN VILLAGE CAN DANCE!

INCLUDING YOU TWO.

OF COURSE!

MEANWHILE, YOU CAN MAKE YOURSELVES USEFUL...

...BY PICKING SOME PRETTY FLOWERS TO DECORATE THE VILLAGE!

I STILL SAY THERE'S NOTHING I LIKE BETTER THAN A BANQUET ON MY BIRTHDAY!

YES, AND I BET I KNOW TWO PEOPLE ENJOYING PLENTY OF BANQUETS!!!

UNHYGIEN

BY BELENGO! WHAT ARE OUR BOYS WAITING FOR? WHY DON'T THEY COME TO THE RESCUE?

THEY'D HAVE TO KNOW WHERE WE ARE FIRST!

WELL, BOJAS GENSIS, SO WHAT'S THIS SOLUTION OF YOURS?

HERE IT IS!!
AND JUST HOW DOES THIS \*\$%ISH WOMAN THINK SHE CAN RECOVER MY WEAPONS?

ONE OF THE GAULS IN THE VILLAGE HOLDING YOUR PROPERTY IS VERY SUSCEPTIBLE TO THE CHARMS OF A GAUL \*\$%ISH GIRL CALLED PANACEA!

AND NOW STRAIGHT FROM THE ROMAN THEATRE, LET ME PRESENT THE GREAT TRAGIC ACTRESS LAVRIVA. A LITTLE CLEVER MAKE-UP HAS TURNED HER INTO A PERFECT REPLICA OF THE PANACEA! HER CHARM AND ACTING ABILITIY WILL DO THE REST!

AND SUPPOSE THIS POMPOUS IDIOT POMPEY STOPS ASKING STUPID QUESTIONS?

BUT SUPPOSE THE REAL PANACEA TURNS UP IN THE VILLAGE?

NEVER HEAR THE REAL PANACEA LIVES HERE IN CONDOMINIUM WITH HER HUSBAND!

BUT SUPPOSE LAVRIVA'S CHARM DOESN'T WORK?

LOOK AT THOSE GREAT GROOPS! CAN'T EVEN SUMMON UP THE COURAGE TO ASK A GIRL TO DANCE!

AFTER WE WENT TO ALL THAT TROUBLE, TOO!
WANT TO DANCE, ASTERIX?
I'M SO SORRY, BUT I'm
A TERRIBLE DANCER!
NOW OBELIX HERE IS
tERRIFIC!

COME ON THEN,
OBELIX, SHALL WE
DANCE?
OH, I DIED DARENT!

GO ON OBELIX,
DON'T BE SO SILLY!

HE'S GOT RHYTHM, MY
OBELIX KING! SEE HIM
dANCE THE POLKA!
MORE OF A
BELLY DANCE if
YOU ASK ME. YOUR
LITTLE OBELIX KINS
WON'T FIND
MUCH PARTNERS
AT THIS RATE.

WHAT A SHAME! WHILE
they WERE PLAYING
MUSIC THEY WEREN'T
THINKING OF PLAYING
ABOUT WITH US!

I NEVER
APPRECIATED
CELTIC MUSIC SO
MUCH IN MY LIFE!
Right, Latraviata. Remember, you were wandering about! You've lost your memory, and can't recall anything except the name of Obelix!

Dont you worry, Fastandfuric! This will be an easy role for an actress of my stature!

Halt! Who are you and where are you going, Roman?

Fastandfuric! at your service, Legionary! I'm a merchant trading in the Gaulish countryside.

And who's this pretty young Gaulish girl?

She's asked me to take her to her native village.

So, what will age be to that be?

Brrr... right! Pass, merchant, and you never get yours on us.

I wonder if it was wise of me to accept this mission!

You look very preoccupied, Fastandfuric!

I hope they recognize you Latra... I mean Panacea!

It's my talent they will recognize!
GOOD GRIEF...
IT'S PANACEA! WHAT
ARE YOU DOING
HERE?

DREW!

THIS POOR GIRL IS SUFFER-
ING FROM AMNESIA. SHE CAN'T
REMEMBER ANYTHING!

BY TOUTATIS! I'LL TELL
CHIEF VITALI-
STATIA!

IT WORKS!
WELL DONE!
YOU REALY
ARE A GREAT
ACTRESS!

THAT'S NOT
IT! I'M HORRI-
FIED AT THE
IDEA OF STAYING
IN A DUMP LIKE
THIS!

IT WORKS!
WELL DONE!
YOU REALLY
ARE A GREAT
ACTRESS!

THAT'S NOT
IT! I'M HORR-
IFIED AT THE
IDEA OF STAYING
IN A DUMP LIKE
THIS!

SO THE
NAME OF
OBELIX LED
YOU TO BRING
PANACEA
HERE?

YES! ON
HEARING IT EVERY-
ONE TOOK ME
THE WAY TO YOUR
VILLAGE!

OOF! ON
HEARING IT EVERY-
ONE TOOK ME
THE WAY TO YOUR
VILLAGE!

ODD THAT THE
POOR CHILD REMEM-
BERS OBELIX BUT
NOT HER HUSBAND
TRAGICOMIX...

GO AND FIND
OBELIX! PERHAPS
THE SIGHT OF
HER WILL RESTORE
HER FAILING
MEMORY!

OBELIX, COME QUICK!!
IT'S PANACEA! SHE
WANTS TO SEE YOU!!

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OBELIX, COME QUICK!!
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WANTS TO SEE YOU!!

OBELIX, COME QUICK!!
IT'S PANACEA! SHE
WANTS TO SEE YOU!!

OSTERIX! ASTERIX!
PANACEA IS HERE AND SHE
WANTS TO SEE ME! SHE
REALLY DOES!!!

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OSTERIX! ASTERIX!
PANACEA IS HERE AND SHE
WANTS TO SEE ME! SHE
REALLY DOES!!!

OSTERIX! ASTERIX!
PANACEA IS HERE AND SHE
WANTS TO SEE ME! SHE
REALLY DOES!!!
PANACEA HAS LOST HER MEMORY, BUT ODDLY ENOUGH SHE SEEMS TO REMEMBER YOUR NAME, OBELIX!

OH! OBEIX!

WHY HAVE YOU COME BACK TO THE VILLAGE, PANACEA AND WHERE'S TRAGICOMIX?

WHO IS THIS LITTLE MAN?

WHY, ASTERIX, OF COURSE! MY BEST FRIEND ASTERIX!

I'M SO GLAD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, OBEIX!

WAKESFESS!

YOU MUST MAKE ALLOCANCE ASTERIX! SHE REMEMBERS ME BUT NO ONE ELSE!

OH, OF COURSE, ASTERIX! LET ME GIVE YOU A GREAT BIG JUG!

HM... I FEAR SHE MAY BE OVERDOING IT A BIT!

THE POOR CHILD MUST HAVE HAD SOME KIND OF TERRIBLE SHOCK. I'LL TAKE HER TO SEE HER FATHER SOPOPOLLIX TO RECOVER!

AS A TOKEN OF GRATITUDE, ROMAN, WE OFFER YOU OUR FAMOUS GAULISH HOSPITALITY?

ER... THANKS CHIEF!

AVE, CHIEF!
I have a nasty feeling we're going to end our days here in jug obeliscoidin.

And I bet everyone thinks we're out on the tiles with a barrel of barley beer!

Shut up about jugs and barrels will you?

Don't you worry, you old goon! In his clemency, the prefect has decided to set you free tomorrow!

Oh! Thank you! The blessings of Bacchus on the unanimous bosque genius! May his cup always run over.

You're getting off lightly, Tremendously...

You've only got to do two punishment fatigues stocking up the water supply!

Mercy! No! Not that! I can't stand contact with water!!!

So we guessed.

Those blighters want to poison me!

We have a proposition to put to you, Roman!

We guess you'll be able to leave the prefecture between your two punishment fatigues, right?

Yeah... so what?

This purse full of sestertii is yours if you promise to tell our friends Panacea and Tragicomix where we are! They live in this city!

Yes, yes! I'll do it! Panacea and Tragicomix! It's a deal!

Someone ought to go and see Tragicomix in conditum. It could be urgent.

Obelix and I will go. We can call and see our fathers too.

Suppose I was to give just a touch?
I HEAR YOU HAVE A FINE COLLECTION OF ROMAN HELMETS, OBELEX! CAN I SEE IT?

IT'S AMAZING, OBELEX!

OH, WELL... ER... DO YOU REALLY THINK SO...?

This is the one I like best! I'm sure the merchant FastandFurios would be willing to buy it from you!

IT'S NOT FOR SALE...

IT'S A BIRTHDAY PRESENT FROM HIS FATHER, YOUNG WOMAN!!!

Oh, do forgive me! I only suggested it because of FastandFurios... he's been so kind to me! It would have been a nice way to say thank you!

Here! It... It's yours now, PPPP...

Oh! Thank you! You're such a sweetie, Obelex!

Well, I suppose you're free to do as you see fit with your presents, Obelex!

I don't know about you, Sarapparilla, but I don't think much of that girl Paracea!

I entirely agree! Anestia has not improved her!

Good, here you are, Obelex! We're off to Condom to find Tragicomix!
OH, PLEASE PLEASE DONT LEAVE ME ALL ALONE IN THIS VILLAGE!

BUT YOU'RE PERFECTLY SAFE!

AND WE HAVE TO KNOW WHAT BROUGHT YOU HERE, AND FIND OUT HOW TRAGICOMIX IS!

I COULDN'T CARE LESS ABOUT TRAGICOMIX!

PANACEA IS RIGHT! TRAGICOMIX ALWAYS HAD A MANIA FOR GETTING INTO TROUBLE!

PLEASE OBEIX, DON'T COMPLICATE THINGS!

YOU'RE THE ONE COMPLICATING THINGS, MISTER ASTERIX!!!

WANT TO KNOW WHAT MISTER ASTERIX THINKS YOU ARE?

AND WHAT DOES THAT LITTLE SQUIRT THINK I AM?

HE THINKS YOU'RE A GREAT FAT IDIOT!

I AM NOT FAT!

PAF!

OH, WHAT HAVE I DONE? I ACTUALLY HIT ASTERIX! WHAT A TERRIBLE THING TO DO!

I'M SO SORRY, ASTERIX! I JUST WASN'T THINKING!!

YOU HURT MY FRIEND ASTERIX! I DON'T LIKE YOU ANY MORE, OBEIX!
COME ALONG, ASTERIX, YOU POOR LITTLE THING! WE DON'T WANT ANYTHING MORE TO DO WITH HIM!

WOOSER!

YOU KNOW, ASTERIX REALLY GETS ME DOWN! HE ALWAYS HAS TO BE RIGHT.

BUT I OUGHT NOT TO HAVE LOST MY TEMPER!

YOU'RE SUCH A SWEETIE, ASTERIX!

I HEAR YOU OWN A MAGNIFICENT SWORD, ASTERIX?

I'M VERY UNHAPPY, DOGMATIN! I WENT AND HIT MY BEST FRIEND.

SUPPOSE I ASKED YOU FOR THAT SWORD, WOULD YOU GIVE IT TO ME?

I'M VERY UNHAPPY, DOGMATIN! I WENT AND HIT MY BEST FRIEND.

AND PANACEA DOESN'T LIKE ME ANY MORE!

BOOHOOHOO!

OH YOU'RE SUCH A SWEETIE, ASTERIX!

WOOSER!

COME ON, LET'S GO AND FIND THAT NICE SWORD.
Pssst! How's it going?

No luck this time, but I'm not beaten yet!

I'm sure it was that little madam's fault you were drinking!!

Grug... Hooer!

Aren't you ashamed of yourself? If your father could see you now!!

See you later, Asterix!!

Whatever I do, I can't get him back to normal! I'll go and ask Vannilla to help me!

I'm worried, Vanilla! Asterix has come home with Panacea in a very strange state!

My lad's in a strange state too! He won't finish up his nice soup even garnished with roast boar!

That Panacea is bad news for our boys!

Yes. I think we'd better consult the druid Getapin. His wisdom will come to our aid!

Psst! It's all right, the coast is clear!

Where are you going this time, Panacea?!

Don't worry, Soporif... I mean Dad!

The more I see of my daughter the less like me she seems!
OBELIX'S TROUBLE IS EASY TO DIAGNOSE! HE'S IN LOVE!

BUT I'LL HAVE TO EXAMINE ASTERIX! MY POTION'S READY, SO I CAN COME WITH YOU NOW!

WELL, I DON'T GUARANTEE THAT THE POTION WILL WORK, BUT AT LEAST ASTERIX IS USED TO TAKING IT!

I'M GOING HOME TO COMFORT MY OBELIXING!

Hi! It's me, PANACEA! Remember what you promised me, Asterix?

WOO-ER!

RIGHT, SO WHERE'S THAT NICE SWORD?

WATCH OUT! HIS MOTHERS COMING!

GIVE ME THE SWORD, YOU FOOL!

WOO-ER!

YOU'D BETTER WATCH OUT IF I FIND YOU HANGING AROUND ASTERIX AGAIN, PANACEA!!!

REMEMBER YOU HAVE A HUSBAND BY THE NAME OF TRAFICOMIX!

OH, GO BACK TO YOUR BORING OLD BOARS AND STOP HAMMING IT UP, BEFORE I SHAKE THE DUST OF THIS PLACE OFF MY COTHURNI!

WOO-ER!

THAT GREAT BIG BRUTE HIT HIM SO HARD HE'S LOST HIS MEMORY AND IN HIS CASE, IT'S NOT AN ACT!

LIFE IN THE BIG CITY CERTAINLY CHANGES PEOPLE A LOT!

IF FOOTWEAR OF ROMAN ACTORS ON STAGE
SOME GREAT EMOTIONAL SHOCK MUST HAVE LEFT HIM IN THIS STATE!

OH, WONDERFUL STUFF, YOUR Potion! Now my son thinks he's a giant flea!!

LISTEN, SARAPARTULA! I MAY HAVE INVENTED A POTION WHICH GIVES PEOPLE SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH AND ANOTHER WHICH TURNS THEM INTO GRANITE AND MAKES THEM REVERT TO CHILDHOOD. BUT DO YOU EXPECT ME TO WORK MIRACLES?

COME BACK HERE THIS MINUTE, ASTERIX!

WELL, DO SOMETHING, DON'T JUST STAND THERE TWIDDLING YOUR THUMBS!!

YOU SEE, DOGMATIN WITHOUT ASTERIX I FEEL AS IF THE STUFFING WAS KNOCKED OUT OF ME!

WHOOOMPH!

BONG!
ASTERIX!
I'M SO GLAD TO SEE YOU!!!

THIS MUST MEAN YOU'VE FORGIVEN ME! WILL YOU SHAKE ME BY THE HAND?

PAP! PAP/PAP/PAP!

WELL NOBODY COULD SAY THAT WAS NO GREAT SHAKE!

HEH, ASTERIX, WERE STILL FRIENDS, RIGHT?

ASTERIX! DROPPING IN AT JUST THE RIGHT MOMENT!

I HOPE YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN YOUR PROMISE!

OH, I GET THE IDEA! YOU WANT ME TO DANCE WITH YOU IN EXCHANGE!

PAP!

OOGOOOH!
I FEEL SO DIZZY!

SMACK!
HOW DARE YOU, YOU LITTLE

YIPPEE!

YIPPEE IS NOT GOOD ENOUGH! APOLOGISE UNLESS YOU WANT TO GET CLOSELY ACQUAINTED WITH THIS FIST AGAIN!!!

YAHOO!

TCHOC?

WELL, I NEVER! WELL, I NEVER!

YOU'RE NOTHING BUT BARBARIANS, THE LOT OF YOU!

OKAY, SO I HIT HIM FIRST, BUT THAT'S NO REASON, AND THIS TIME PANACEA DIDN'T EVEN COMFORT ME! IT'S NOT FAIR!

THE BAND'S STOPPED PLAYING! NOW TO FACE THE MUSIC!

LIKE THE GAULS, LET'S HOPE THE SKY DOESN'T FALL ON OUR HEADS!

CRAASH!
WHAT ON EARTH WAS THAT? WHAT IN THE WORLD WAS THAT?

YIPPEE!

YOYO HOHO HOHO HOHO HOHO HOHO HOHO HOHO HOHO HOHO HOHO HOHO HOHO

CLONK!

SEVERAL HOURS LATER...

...AS THE SEA RISES AND A STORM IS BREWING...

OUCH!

MY POOR HEAD! I FEEL AS IF THE SKY FELL ON IT!!!

HEY... WHAT AM I DOING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SEA, UP A ROCK WITHOUT A PADDLE? THIS IS A NIGHTMARE!
THE GAUL...
THE GAUGAUL...

BEAR HARD TO STARBOARD!!!
I'M GOING ASHORE FOR PSYCHOANALYSIS!

SPECTRAL ANALYSIS MIGHT DO THE TRICK, CAP'N!
Seems I've got no option! I'm a long way from land, but I must try to swim ashore.

Much later, as the storm rages ever more violently...

I'm exhausted! If Tootatis doesn't come to my aid...

...I'm done for...

Tootatis has sent me this dolphin.

Thanks, mate!
YOU HAD US REALLY WORRIED, ASTERIX!

I CAN'T MAKE IT OUT IF THAT HEAVEN-SENT DOLPHIN HADN'T PICKED UP MY SCENT...

NEVER MIND THE RECENT PAST FOR NOW, ASTERIX! IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE YOU MUST GO TO CONDATUM TO FIND YOUR FATHER!

OH MY POOR RINGKINS!

THAT'S RIGHT... I REMEMBER DISCUSSING IT WITH OBEIX!

AND I'M SURE YOU A SCOUR OF MAGIC POTION FOR YOUR JOURNEY!

OH NO! YOU'RE NOT GOING TO SCOOP ANY MORE OF THAT EVIL BREW ARE YOU, ASTERIX?!

MADAM, BEFORE YOU SCOOP AT MY EVIL BREW RECOLLECT THAT THE HAPPy END OF YOUR RINGKINS' ADVENTURES DEPENDS ON IT, SO AS A MOTHER WILL YOU KINDLY KEEP MUM?!!

GO AND FIND OBEIX! HE NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT JUST NOW, ASTERIX!

THAT GREAT GOOF MUST BE IN THE QUARRY WITH HIS MENHIRS!

WELL, OBEIX, WE'RE OFF TO CONDATUM, LAND OF OUR FATHERS! COMING?

FORGIVE ME IF I HURT YOU, OBEIX! MAYBE I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT I WAS DOING?!

I THINK YOU KNEW PERFECTLY WELL WHAT YOU WERE DOING AND I THINK YOU RATHER ENJOYED IT!

COME ON, OBEIX! TRASHCOMIX AND OUR FATHERS MAY NEED US!

VERY WELL, BUT SWEAR THAT YOU WONT INSULT PANACEA'S DISGUSTING DIGNITY AGAIN!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE ON ABOUT, BUT YES, OF COURSE I SWEAR!

GOOD! WILL YOU SHAKE ME BY THE HAND?

WELL, NOBODY COULD SAY THAT WAS NO GREAT SHAKES!

HO, HO, HO! COPYCAT!
In condatum, where night has fallen...

How did I ever have a threat on me... hic! Fiasco, Hic! back in the prefect's prison!

Fact is, they weren't pleased I did a deal with Pompey's sword and... hic!... Helmet... bottom's up! Hic. Hee hee hee!

It's late, time for bed, tremende! Hic!

Pompey isn't pleased either... hic!... He's afraid Caesar will find out he's in jail... hic!... To raise an army against him... hic! Teshsheehee...

I shan't remember I was supposed to warn someone... hic!... Can't re-member who... hic!... Bout can't remember what... hic!

Snorrrr! Zzzzzz!

A little later at the headquarters of the legate commanding the region...

Quick! I want a messenger sent to Caesar in Rome!

And once again, we have a privileged view of...

...the magnificent organisation of the Roman army...

...even if sometimes...

Just let me get my hands on the son of a bitch who stole my horse...
AN URGENT MESSAGE FOR CAESAR!

BY JUPITER! POMPEY!!! NOT HIM AGAIN?

AN URGENT MESSAGE FOR THE LEGATE IN CONDATUM!

AND YET AGAIN WE CAN ADHERE TO THE EFFICIENCY OF THE ROMAN POSTAL SERVICE IN ACTION IN THE OTHER DIRECTION.

THE LAST RUNER FINALLY RELAYS CAESAR'S MESSAGE TO THE LEGATE IN CONDATUM.

ARRRRRRG! WHEEEEEE! ARRRRRG! WHEEEEEE!

GENTLEMEN, YOU WILL NOW BE AWARE THAT POMPEY IS HERE IN SAVI TO RAISE AN ARMY AGAINST CAESAR WHO ORDERS US TO INVESTIGATE ALL THE GARRISONS AND FIND THE TRAITORS! SO GET MOVING!

MEANWHILE, STILL IN CONDATUM...

I THINK I'LL CALL ON ASTERIX AND OBELIX'S PARENTS. IT'S A LONG TIME SINCE I LAST SAW THEM!

FOR THIS 3 THE REAL PANACEA?

MODERNITY
THE PREFECT'S GUARDS TOOK ASTRONOMIX AND OBELESCOND AWAY! I NEVER SAW THEM AGAIN!

OH, TRAGICOMIX!! ASTRONOMIX AND OBELISC-OLDIX ARE IN DANGER!

WE MUST GO TO THE VILLAGE AT ONCE AND WARN ASTERIX AND OBERIX!

AT THIS VERY MOMENT IN THE VILLAGE...

WE WANT TO ASK YOU A FAVOUR, ROMAN!

ER... WELL... THE FACT IS...

THEN LET'S GET OUT OF HERE QUICK!

I WAS JUST ASKING FASTANDRIRUS TO TAKE ME BACK TO CONDATUM MYSELF, WE CAN TRAVEL TOGETHER!

BUT NOT SO LONG AGO SHE WAS SAYING...

I'LL HARNESSES THE HORSES!

LA DONA E MUBLE OBELIX!

I'M SAD! I'VE LOST MY LITTLE DOGMATIX!

BUT YOU DON'T BECOME COOL YOURSELF, OBERIX, OLD FRIEND!

SO? I CAN GIVE MY DAD A PRESENT IF I WANT TO, RIGHT?

LATER ON THE WAY TO CONDATUM...

DID YOU REALLY HAVE TO LUMBER US WITH A MENOIR?

HERE CHOIRITS
IN ONE OF THE MANY ROMAN GARRISONS ON OCCUPIED ARMORICAN SOIL...

CENTURION, SIMULACRA! YOUR ORDERS ARE TO INVESTIGATE THE WHOLE SECTOR IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY AND EXPOSE THE LEGIONS IN ROMPEY'S PAY!

IT WON'T BE EASY IF THEY DON'T HAVE ANY DISTINGUISHING MARKS, GENERAL!

NEVER MIND THAT! GET MOVING!!!

DISTURB COHULINOTUS! YOU AND YOUR MEN ARE TO COMB THE WHOLE SECTOR AND PICK UP POMPIARIANS WHO ARE LEGION HERE!

JUST AS YOU SAY, CENTURION, BUT SCUSE ME ASKING, HOW DO I RECOGNISE A POMPIARIAN WHEN I SEE ONE?

NEVER MIND THAT! GET MOVING!!!

GOT IT? YOU BUNCH OF SKIVVERS, WE COMB THE SECTOR, WE PICK UP ALL THE POMPIARIANS WE FIND, AND WE REPORT BACK. ANY QUESTIONS?

NEVER MIND THAT! GET MOVING!!!

AND FROM THIS POINT ON, THE MAJOR-GEN ERAL'S ORGANISATION OF THE ROMAN LEGIONS BEGINS TO COLLAPSE INTO TOTAL DISORDER AND CONFUSION...

HALT! WHO GOES THERE? ARE YOU THE POMPIARIAN LEGIONARIES WE'RE AFTER? IF SO, IT'S A FAIR COP!

YOU'LL BE COPPING IT YOURSELF IF YOU DON'T WATCH OUT!
MIND YOUR MANNERS, YOU GREAT FAT WINESKIN!

GREAT FAT WINESKIN YOURSELF!

YOU’LL SOON BE SLEEPING IT OFF IN THE CAN!

WHILE YOU KICK YOUR HEELS AT YOUR OWN CONVENIENCE!

GET THIS BUNCH OF YOBBOS UNDER ARREST!

COME ON, LAY INTO THEM!

ROMANS FIGHTING EACH OTHER ???

HAVE THESE ROMANS GONE CRAZY?

THUD! BANG!
IT'S NOT FAIR, ROMANS FIGHTING AMONGST THEMSELVES!
LETS MAKE THEM SEE REASON!
AREN'T YOU ASHAMED OF YOURSELVES, THUMPING EACH OTHER?
WITHOUT WAITING FOR US?
WELCOME, GLORIOUS GGAULS!
YEAH, WE'VE GOT OTHER FISH TO FRY!
WOULD YOU LIKE THEM BATTERED?
TAKE THAT, HOUSE HAUS YOUR CHIPS!
CRACK!
CLONK!
WHOOOSH!
CRAAAAAASH!
RIGHT, THE ROAD'S CLEAR NOW!
ASTERIX! THE CART HAS DISAPPEARED!??
THEY... THEY'VE LEFT US BEHIND!
You bet! And Panacea is his prisoner! We must catch up with him!

You know, Panacea's own behaviour since she came home baffles me!

Me too! She's been much cooler to me than usual!

You never cease to surprise me, Obelix! But we'll have trouble catching up with them in spite of the weight of your mehka!

We'd go faster without that mehka! You ought to chuck it out, Fastandfurios!

Look, I'm corrupt a deceiver, a liar and a conspirator, so who am I to cast the first stone?

Jupiter's Thunderbolts!

Make way, Gaul! I'm in a hurry!

And so am I, Roman!

What the...? Panacea?

??

Yes, what is it, Tragiconix?
I'll show you his own little panacea!!!

Get down out of that cart if you dare!

It... it's a wig!!!

Oh, very well! I am the great Roman tragic actress and opera diva Latrina! I need to make a great song and dance about it!
NOW I UNDERSTAND THE PECULIAR WAY SHE WAS ACTING!

BUT THEN SHE WASN'T THE REAL PANACEA AFTER ALL!

HERE'S THE REAL PANACEA, OBLIX DEAR!

OH, ASTERIX, FORGIVE ME! I THOUGHT YOU...

THE ROMAN! HE'S MAKING A BREAK FOR IT!

NO, OBLIX! DON'T!

I'M ABOUT TO LOSE MY TEMPER!

BONG!

ALL RIGHT, ROMAN?

THE PREFECT OF CONDITAIRE SENT ME TO RECOVER ROMPE'S SWORD AND HELMET. BUT MY PART IS OVER NOW. HERE ARE THE SWORD AND HELMET BACK... THOUGH I'M AFRAID THAT HEAVY HELMET IN THE CART...

THOSE WEAPONS MUST HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH YOUR FATHERS' IMPRISONMENT BY THE PREFECT ASTERIX!!!
WE MUST GO TO CONDATUM, OBERIX, AND FAST!

AND WHILE WE THOUGHT OUR DADS WERE LIVING IT UP THEY WERE ON DRY BREAD AND WATER!

TELL ME, ASTERIX, WHAT IS ALL THIS ABOUT THE SWORD AND HELMET AND A FOMOUS PREFECT AND CAESAR?

WELL, ONCE UPON A TIME ROME WAS GOVERNED BY A TRIBUNATE... THAT MEANS THREE CONSELS: CAESAR, ROMPEY AND GAIUS. WHEN CRASSUS DIED CAESAR DISMISSED ROMPEY IN ORDER TO MAKE HIMSELF DICTATOR. SO THAT MADE ROMPEY HIS GREATEST ENEMY. I CAN WELL IMAGINE THAT HE'S TRYING TO RAISE AN ARMY AGAINST CAESAR IN SAIL, WHICH WOULD EXPLAIN A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF CONFUSION AMONG THE ROMAN LEGIONS. UNDERSTAND?

OH LET THE ROMANS SETTLE THEIR OWN DIFFERENCES! IT'S NONE OF OUR BUSINESS, OBERIX!

ALL THE SAME... WHAT A WASTE!

BUT I DO UNDERSTAND ONE THING... THESE ROMANS ARE CRAZY!
NO PARKING OUTSIDE THE PREFECTURE!

GUARDS! RAISE THE ALARM!

YOU'RE RIGHT, ASTERIX! A LITTLE TOUCH LOVE NEVER HURTS ANYONE!

WOULD YOU BE KIND ENOUGH TO TELL ME WHERE THE P precursor IS HOLDING THE TWO GAULISH MERCHANTS PRISONERS?

YOU'RE RIGHT, ASTERIX! A LITTLE TOUCH LOVE NEVER HURTS ANYONE!

QUIS QUID UT, QUISUS NULILIS OCUR QUOMODO QUANDO ???

SABLES RUNNING ABOUT FREE IN MY PRISON ???
ASTERIX, OBELIX! AT LAST!!!

DAD!

ONLY PASSING THROUGH!

I FELT I WAS GROWING OLD DOWN HERE, SON!

MY BABY BOY! IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU!!

AND HOW'S YOUR MOTHER?

SHE'S JUST FINE, EXCEPT HER ONE IDEA IS TO MARRY ME OFF!

ANY NEWS APART FROM THAT?

WELL, BOGUS GENIUS? A RAT LEAVING THE SINKING SHIP?

WELL, PROPEST? LEAVING US WITHOUT SAYING GOODBYE?

WE TOLD YOU TO WAIT FOR OUR SONS TO TURN UP!

STOP THAT TRAITOR!

THOSE ARE THE TRAITORS! THEY'VE GOT POMPEY'S WEAPONS!

I THINK WE'LL HAVE TO BE VERY VERY POLITE TO THEM AGAIN, OBELIX!

YOU KNOW WHAT? I SHALL NEVER REGRET VISITING CONDATUM!
TAKE THAT! SEE MY FIST, DO YOU?
TAKE THIS! AND THIS AND THIS!
PAP! THUMP!

YOU AGAIN?

WELL, WAULS, I CERTAINLY SEEM TO BUMP INTO YOU WHENEVER THINGS ARE GOING BADLY!

HI, JULES! I KNOW ABOUT YOUR PROBLEMS BUT THEY'RE NOTHING TO DO WITH US. WE WAULS AREN'T INTERESTED IN POLITICAL INFIGHTING AMONG ROMANS.
I know but all the same can you tell me if you happen to have seen Pompey and that traitor Bosco Genius?

Yes, of course!

I met Bosco Genius a moment ago, and he's just met rather a lot of legionaries himself, as for Pompey...

Would this be the man you're after, Caesar?

He ran into me just now. He seemed to be in a hurry to leave Condatus!

Since it's a change of air they're after, I'll have them shipped off to the deserts of Africa. That'll cool them down a bit!

And let it never be said that Caesar was ungrateful! Julius, you deserve the trophy! I am going to give you...

It's a Golden ME!

What's a golden mean?

He said a golden me... probably a golden statue of himself?

Thanks, Julius, but the person who really deserves a trophy...

... is the great actress L'Araviata, who has given us a demonstration of her astronomic genius!

Give a woman a trophy for acting? That's ridiculous!
WELL HAVE OUR WORK CUT OUT, GETTING THIS PLACE STRAIGHT AGAIN!

OH, MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK!

I MUST ASK YOU TO FORGIVE ME FOR MY PART IN ALL THIS...

WE BEAR NO GRUDGES...

AND WE'RE GOING TO GIVE YOU...

...WHICH WILL BUST YOU DOWN TO THE GROUND!

A ROMAN LADY LEFT THIS ROBE WITH US. SHE LOST EVERYTHING BUT HER SANDALS AT DICE!

AND A LITTLE LATER STILL...

CLAP/CLAP/CLAP/CLAP/CLAP/CLAP/CLAP

I SHALL NEVER FORGET THE GENEROSITY OF THOSE SO UNJUSTLY DESCRIBED AS BARBARIANS.

AND NOW I MUST LEAVE YOU. I'M GETTING FAST AND FURIOUS TO TAKE US BACK TO ROME.

WOO-HOO!

WE LOOK STONED OUT OF HIS MIND. ONE OF YOUR MEN'S WAS IT?

WELL, ONLY A LITTLE ONE!

GOODBYE, ASTERIX! THANKS TO YOU, THIS GOLDEN TROPHY WILL OPEN THE DOORS OF EVERY THEATRE IN ROME TO ME.

OH, IT WAS NOTHING!
Thanks, son! Your mehri will make a good shop sign, and we'll change the name of the place to "The Flying Mehir!"

Well, mind some fun-by-night doesn't make off with it.

And at last the Gallics return to the village...

What are you thinking about, Asterix?

Hm...

What... me? Oh, nothing.

Did you? Under the starry sky of Gaul? Nothing really just the traditional recorders in the village to mark the return of our heroes with a lavish banquet... plenty of roast wild boar... much to the satisfaction of a Gaul who isn't fat just well covered. The only other thing he wants is to be reunited with his four-footed friend... and that moment is fast approaching...

Ladies and gentlemen, Gauls and friends, I raise my drinking horn to:

Obelisco! You know you ought to watch your diet!

Do remember that barley beer doesn't agree with you, astronomer!

I'm so glad to have our dads here too, Obelix!

I shan't feel really happy until my little dog, Mati, turns up, Asterix!