

Asterix

Annotations



English and American Translations

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The Asterix Annotations: English and American Translations

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Abstract

The year is sometime in the early 21st century. The world is entirely occupied with watching "Reality" TV and Boy Bands. Well, not entirely... One small group of indomitable comic book enthusiasts still hold out against the mindless "entertainment" of TV and fight for intelligent humour. ;-)

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Preface

Preface to Version 4

Once again, it is time to bump up the major version of The Asterix Annotations. The Internet and the world wide web of 2006 is significantly different from that of 1998 when Version 3.0 was published. The hand-coded HTML of Versions 2.0 and 3.0, though pretty in a minimalist sort of way, has not been coping with growth. Maintaining the Annotations had become quite painful and it was time for a dramatic change.

Starting with this version the Annotations will be maintained in *DocBook* [<http://www.docbook.org/>] format. This makes it easy to produce the Annotations in multiple formats (HTML, PDF, PS, etc.). Going to DocBook is a sort of trip back memory lane for the Annotations. Ron's version used to format in TeX which is an ancestor of DocBook in some ways.

There are significant additions and some minor deletions in this version. The section 'Ideas for new Asterix books' has been removed. It has not evolved in quite a while, and it does not exactly fit in with the rest of the annotations. The most significant addition is a new Index section.

Finally, it is now possible to get a beautifully typeset PDF version of the Annotations that can be printed out and read at your convenience on a lazy Sunday afternoon with a glass of Gaulish wine and roast boar.

Sudhakar That's Chandrasekharan

Preface to Version 3

Why version 3.0? When I started maintaining The Annotations it was mainly an HTML-ized version of Ron's original work. As soon as I started hosting Version 2.0 I sent out an email to *The Asterix Mailing List* [<http://stp.ling.uu.se/mailman/listinfo/asterix>]. Updates to the Annotations started pouring in. Pretty soon I realized that the Annotations have moved quite a bit away from Ron's original work. This does not mean that the original character of Version 1.0 has been lost. It just means that the Annotations has come a long way. I hope I have been successful in keeping the spirit of the first version alive. I still owe a lot to Ron for having done most of the ground work.

The Annotations now include a new section titled 'Ideas for new Asterix Books'. I have also re-organized the Geography and Terminology sections. I have included small images of the book cover in the book annotations.

Version 3.0 is work in progress. Things that are still missing as of May 1998 include a section for songs in Asterix books, a section explaining the humour techniques in Asterix and a section for guest appearances.

As of Version 3.0 I have modified the copyright and re-distribution license of the Annotations.

Sudhakar That's Chandrasekharan

Preface to Version 2

Thanks, first of all, to Ron for creating such a fine piece of work. Any fan of Asterix (or any other work by Goscinny and / or Uderzo) will know that there is a lot of hidden and subtle humor in these works. This kind of humor makes the books enjoyable for different reasons at different points in life.

I have been reading Asterix for the past 15 years and have found that each reading of an Asterix book reveals some hidden humor - perhaps the expression on the face of the boars in the forest or the curses of the chariot drivers in Lutetia or the subtle word play of the translators - that I had previously been unaware of. When I was in high school my friends and I used to routinely exchange information about such hidden humor. When I discovered Ron Dippold's fine work it was somewhat like finding something that one has always been looking for.

One might argue that Goscinny and Uderzo (and the translators) had originally placed these nuggets in the books so that people could discover them over a period of time. One might add that publishing a collection of the nuggets would destroy the feeling of discovery that one has when one finds out a hidden nugget. My response to this argument is that whenever I discover some such hidden nugget my immediate thought usually is 'I have to share this with somebody!' followed by 'Why didn't someone share this with me?!' IMO, the Asterix Annotations will help one enjoy these fine works of art better.

Sudhakar Thaths Chandrasekharan

Preface to Version 1

A big thanks to Sergio Gelato for translating over half the Latin phrases in here. Thanks to Harry Fluks for some information on book order. Other credits are given to those with significant new information, not just for typos and such, sorry. First one to submit a reference gets the credit.

This annotation is copyrighted not for financial reasons, just for a bit of control over reproduction - a lot of effort went into this. If you want to publish any of this in any medium for any strange reason, contact me.

This annotation has been prepared because not only the authors (Rene Goscinny and Albert Uderzo, and later just Uderzo) have been rather clever and sometimes obscure, but because the translators (Anthea Bell and Derek Hockridge for the English, Robert Steven Caron for the American) have for the most part done a fantastic job. There are jokes and references that don't appear in the original text. I know I'm missing some of the jokes, and it yanks my chain. I learned a lot compiling this - who would think that caseous meant "cheeselike?"

One thing to note is that a great deal of work has gone into the books to make them accurate as possible. When you read "Asterix and the Olympic Games" you'll note how realistically drawn the buildings are - and that's because Uderzo has drawn them from the best information at the time. The bard sometimes will use some really bizarre instrument that turns out to have actually existed. Most of these aren't noted.

So one set of annotation material are the obscure references and occasional Latin, and another other will be the names. As you've seen, every Asterix character has a name that means something. Sometimes it's obvious, sometimes it's a pain in the neck. The third category of references are the occasional famous persons who will appear in the drawings. The standard Asterix characters have a recognizable

look to them and these usually stand out, but sometimes it's hard to tell.

I am not trying to explain all the jokes and puns and things that are hopefully obvious to everyone. This is for some of the names which are tricky, and especially for the Latin, which most people don't speak and in Asterix is often classical in nature. In fact, there are several Latin quotes I have translated that I know are classical in nature but I don't know the original source. Please provide!

This is billed as the Annotations for the English and American translations not to be chauvinistic but because the names/jokes change from language to language. Especially the character names, but other things as well. I happen to think that Bell and Hockridge have done a first rate job, and Caron seems to be making a good start. There are jokes and references which don't appear in the original text. Thus what's valid for the English version may not hold for other versions, although some things will. Since the translators are British, some of the annotations are going to be for the benefit of Yanks. Page numbers in the books are given from the first actual page of the story, since the number of lead-in pages varies by publisher, edition, and translation. Later Asterixes are actually numbered in the drawings, but some aren't. So if yours starts on page 5, that's page 1 in this annotation, so add (or subtract) 4 from everything. Without further ado, here we go... If you have any corrections or additions, please send them to me. Credit will be given to the first to respond on something. Especially notice the "???" where I know something should be here, but I'm at a loss. Also note that I have undoubtedly completely missed some references that aren't obvious.

Ron Dippold

Part I. General Annotations

Chapter 1. Geography — The World According to Asterix



In the world of 50 BC the world looks different because of different borders and places and countries are sometimes known by other names.

Cities and Countries

Table I.I. Cities and countries that appear in Asterix comics and their modern names

Location	Current Name. Comments
Agylla	A city on the east coast of Corsica. See map at the beginning of Asterix in Corsica.
Aleria	A Roman fortress and port on the east coast of Corsica. See map at the beginning of Asterix in Corsica
Alesia	Capital of the Gaulish tribe of Mandubians, on the Mount Auxois, near Alise-Sainte-Reine in the Cote-d'Or in Burgundy. A Celtic hill fort and center of Celtic resistance where Vercingetorix surrendered to Caesar in 52 BC. The surrender marked the beginning of the complete romanization of the country. For years nobody could agree on the exact location of Alesia (this angle is played well in the Asterix books). Some people were convinced that the historic Alesia was near the small town of Alaise, in the Franche-Comtè, while others thought it was in a town barely larger, called Alise-Sainte-Reine in Burgundy near the upper Seine, near the hill of Vix. The debate could have continued for years, but the believers of

Geography — The World According
to Asterix

Location	Current Name. Comments
	the second version were lucky in having Napoleon on their side. He funded archaeological studies to verify his hypothesis. The campaign undertaken between 1861 and 1865 near Aise-Sainte-Reine unearthed enough evidence for this town to claim the name of Alesia.
Alexandria	Merchant port at the western top of the Nile. Egypt's second largest city. Founded in 323 BC by Alexander the Great. Most of Asterix and Cleopatra takes place here.
Armorica	Western France. Home of Asterix's village. An ancient and literary name for the northwest part of France, especially Brittany. In 56 BC, Julius Caesar conquered the region of Brittany for Rome. This addition to the Roman Empire was known by two names: Armorica, a Romanization of the Celtic word for seaside, and Gallia Lugdunensis. (In 440 BCE the Gaulish town of Ys, in Armorica (modern Brittany), is overwhelmed by a great flood, and submerged beneath the sea — the foundation of many such legends of lost cities.)
Arvenia	Central France (now Auvergne). The Arvenians rose up against Caesar in 53 BC. This is the location of Asterix and the Chieftains Shield
Aquitania	SW France
Babylon	Ancient city located on the banks of lower Euphrates (Southern Iraq). It was the capital of the Babylonian empire in the 3rd Century BC. Destroyed in 482 BC by Persian king Xerxes I.
Belgica	NE France / Belgium
Brittany (Armorica)	Brittany (Armorica (q.v.)) is Celtic not because it resisted Romanization, but because it was settled by Britons fleeing the Germanic invasion of Britain. The modern Breton language is most closely related to Welsh and Cornish.
Briton	Britain
Caledonia	Scotland
Carnac	City on the south coast of Brittany.
Carnutes, Forest of	Place where Gaulish druids used to meet to hold counsel and resolve disputes. Julius Caesar mentions this in his writings.
Celtica	West France
Condatum	Rennes, France. Large town in 50 BC.
Corsica	Island in western Mediterranean.
Durocortum	Reims. The center of the Champagne region. Asterix and Obelix take an amphora of the beverage in Asterix and the Banquet.
Durovernum	Canterbury in the south-eastern tip of England.
Gaul	Formerly Gallia. An ancient region of western Europe south and west of the Rhine River, west of the Alps, and north of the Pyrenees. Corresponding roughly to modern-day France and Belgium. The Romans extended the designation to include northern Italy, particularly after Julius Caesar's conquest of the area in the Gallic wars (58-51 BCE). The historical name for the region where Celts lived from the 6th century B.C. It seems only Armorica was able to conserve its Celtic culture after the Roman invasion.
Gergovia	Site of battle in 52 BC where Vercingetorix beat Julius Caesar (temporarily), in France. Fortified town of the Arvenians. South of Clermont-Ferrand.

Geography — The World According
to Asterix

Location	Current Name. Comments
Goth (Germania)	Germany.
Helvetia	Switzerland. Well, not completely, but...
Hibernia	Ireland
Hispania	Spain (the Spanish are Iberians)
Londinium	London
Lugdunum	Lyons, France. Capital of Roman Gaul
Lusitania	Portugal
Lutetia	Paris (or actually the city on an island which expanded to become Paris). Greatest city in Gaul. Founded as a fishing village, it was captured and fortified by the Romans in 52 BCE. Clovis I made it the capital of his kingdom after CE 486, and Hugh Capet (Frank invader) established it as the capital of France after his accession to the throne in 987. In Asterix Leutatia mostly signifies the city as opposed to the village and all the consequent contraptions like traffic jams, height of fashion and modern lifestyle.
Massilia	Marseilles, Mediterranean port in France. The Romans Latinized it to Massila.
Mesopotamia	Land between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, today part of Iraq
Nicae	Nice, France.
Nubia	Africa (south of Egypt)
Phoenicia	Coastal region from the eastern Mediterranean to Jordan and Lebanon.
Provincia	SE France

The Roman Camps

The four Roman camps that surround the village are named differently in the English and American translations.

Table 1.2. The Roman Camps in the English Translation

Camp	Comments
Aquarium	Self explanatory.
Totorum	Torturous or "Tot o' rum". Later references to "Delerium" in "Asterix in Spain" suggest the first interpretation. In the original French the camp is called 'Babaorum' (baba au rhum = rum cake). This points to the latter interpretation.
Laudanum	Laudanum is a solution of opium in alcohol.
Compendium	A compendium is a collection, usually a book.

Table 1.3. The Roman Camps in the American Translation

Geography — The World According
to Asterix

Camp	Comments
Aquarium	Self explanatory.
Opprobrium	Conduct bringing shame and disgrace.
Nohappimedium	No happy medium = no agreeable compromise
Delirium	A confused mental state often involving hallucinations.

Chapter 2. Terminology - From Amphora to SPQR

Table 2.1. Recurring terminology in Asterix

Term	Meaning
Amphora	Jug
Appian Way	Major Roman highway from Rome to Capua to Brundisium
Barbarians	Greek term (derogatory) meaning "those who do not speak Greek" or "those that stammer". The Romans used this term to describe the people who were not part of their empire.
Bard	From the Celtic word <i>bardas</i> meaning "singer or poet". One who sang heroic songs. Bards preserved Celtic history and legends through songs under Roman occupation. However, bardic knowledge such as medicine deteriorated as educated people under Pax Romana spoke Latin. They continue (to the present day) in Wales, Scotland and Ireland.
Beer	Beer was brought to Gaul and Germany by the Romans. The Belgians considered it to be Magic Potion. The British drank it warm.
Baths	Public bath houses started around the 1 st century B.C. and continued growing in popularity till there were almost a thousand in the 6 th century A.D.
Bucinas	Round horns (like french horns ??)
Calends	The first day of every month. The Roman calendar divides the year into 365 days and includes an additional day for each leap year. Julius Caesar created this calendar based on the Egyptian calendar.
Caligae	Sandals (or feet). May be hints of the wretched 'Caligula' (meaning "little boots")
Cauldron	A large vessel, such as a kettle or vat, used for boiling. [Middle English, alteration of <i>cauderon</i> , from Norman French diminutive of <i>caudiere</i> , cooking pot, from Late Latin <i>caldria</i> , from feminine of Latin <i>caldrius</i> , suitable for warming, from <i>calidus</i> , warm.]
Cena	The Romans' main daily meal
Centurion	Leader of 100 men (a century) in the Roman army. In actuality, this varies greatly. The commander of each of the camps surrounding the village of indomitable Gauls is a centurion.
Circus, The	The Circus Maximus, site of gladiatorial combat in Rome. Derives from the Latin word for circle. Also involves people being eaten by wild beasts and Gladiators fighting for their lives.
Cohort	1/10 th of a legion.
Dolmen	A primitive structure created by placing one large rock across two side rocks and covered with soil to make a small mound. The stones are all that is left today.
Decurion	Leader of 10 men in the Roman army. Patrols are usually led by decurions. Compare this to Centurion (q.v.).

Terminology - From Amphora to
SPQR

Term	Meaning
Druid	The word Druid may derive from an Indo-European root 'dreo-vid,' meaning 'one who knows the truth.' In practice it was probably understood to mean something like 'wise one,' or 'philosopher-priest.' Some Druids did (and still do) perform priestly functions; officiating in public and private worship, initiating and instructing, healing and blessing. The 1st century Roman author, Pliny the Elder in his almanac work called 'Histories' gives an account of white-clad Druids climbing oak trees to cut sacred mistletoe from them using gold sickles.
Fatigue	Military term for punishment duty. In the U.S. it's K.P.
Gladiator	From the Latin word gladius meaning sword. Name used to refer to the fighters in The Circus (q.v.). They were mostly prisoners of war, condemned criminals or slaves.
Lanista	Latin word for gladiator trainers.
Legion	3000 to 6000 soldiers with additional cavalry.
Maniple (Manipule)	Unit of Roman legion. Two centuries make a Manipule. 30 Manipules make a legion.
Menhir	Those big pointed rocks that Obelix is always carrying around. Menhirs are standing pre-historic megalithic monuments that are known now to have been erected (probably) between 3500 BCE and 1800 BCE before the arrival of the Celts in Europe. Great concentrations of menhir and dolmen are found in Ireland, Brittany (largest is in Carnac city), Spain and Corsica. Menhir and Dolmen are celtic names given to this pre-celtic "magic rocks". Menhir means "standing stone" in Celtic. Some menhirs are engraved to look like warriors (especially in Corsica).
Optio(ne)	A staff officer who assists the commanding officer.
Orgy	Any kind of party. No sex need be involved.
Pax Romana	Roman Peace, enforced by the army.
Pilum	Roman spear.
Potion	A liquid dose, especially one of medicinal, magic, or poisonous content. Middle English 'pocion', from Old French, from Latin 'potio', 'potion-'.
Prefect	A high ranking official. Usually a governor. In modern France a prefect (préfet) is the administrator of a Department (analogous to an American County).
Quaestor	Treasury functionary whose position gave him access to the Senate.
Sestertii	Roman money. Probably worth about \$2 US today. 100 sestertii = one gold coin. The Oxford Classical Dictionary implies that a sesterce was about five ounces of silver. Other books roughly equate it to a British sexpence (1957) or tuppence (1933). The orichalcum sestertius (plural: sestertii) was the largest bronze denomination in the early Roman Empire, and it continued, growing only gradually smaller until the reign of Postumus (usurper in the breakaway Gallic Empire, 259-258 AD) who minted the last sestertius. Because of their larger flan, the sestertii, particularly of the earlier empire, had the potential for exquisite reverses which many moneyers, particularly under the Adoptive and Antonine dynasties, used to portray their finest works.
SPQR	Senatus Populus Que Romanus = The Senate and People of Rome. The mark of the separation of the supreme power between the aristocratic senate and the people.
Talent	Variable unit of weight used in ancient Greece. Because of the close relationship of weight

Terminology - From Amphora to
SPQR

Term	Meaning
	and monetary worth, it was also used a currency.

Chapter 3. Recurring characters

Characters that appear again and again — at least twice usually qualifies — in the Asterix canon.

Gods

Table 3.1. Recurring Gods in Asterix

God	Meaning:explained meaning. Comments
<i>Adonis</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adonis]	Greek god of vegetation. Son of Theias, king of Smyrna, and his daughter Myrrha. Lover of <i>Aphrodite</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aphrodite]. Killed by a wild boar while hunting. Symbolizes the natural cycle of death and rebirth.
<i>Apollo</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apollo]	Greek god of light, music, poetry, the arts, oracles, medicine and breeding. Son of <i>Zeus</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zeus] and <i>Leto</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leto]. Starting 5th century BC Apollo was also the object of a cult in Rome.
<i>Belenos (or)</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Belenos]	Celtic god of light. A Gallo-Roman nickname for Apollo (q.v.). Married to <i>Belisama</i> (q.v.)
<i>Belisama</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Belisama]	Celtic god of lakes and rivers (the river Ribble in England was known by the name <i>Belisama</i> in Roman times), fire, crafts and light. Only appears as an oath in the Asterix books. Wife of <i>Belanus</i> (q.v.). <i>Belenos</i> and <i>Belisama</i> are compared to the Roman equivalents - <i>Apollo</i> (q.v.) and <i>Minerva</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Minerva].
<i>Helios</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Helios]	Greek god of Sun. The son of <i>Hyperion</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hyperion] and <i>Theia</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theia].
<i>Heracles</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heracles]	Demigod in Greek mythology. Son of <i>Zeus</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zeus] and <i>Alcmene</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alcmene].
<i>Hermes</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hermes]	Greek god. Son of <i>Zeus</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zeus] and <i>Maia</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maia]. Messenger of the gods. The Greek equivalent of the Roman god <i>Mercury</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mercury].
<i>Isis</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isis]	Egyptian mother goddess. Wife of <i>Osiris</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Osiris] and mother of <i>Horus</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horus].
<i>Juno</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juno]	Chief goddess of the Romans. Equivalent to the Greek goddess <i>Hera</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hera]. Wife of <i>Jupiter</i> (q.v.), protectress of femininity.
<i>Jupiter</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jupiter]	In Roman mythology, <i>Jupiter</i> (Jove) held the same role as <i>Zeus</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zeus] in the Greek pantheon. The name is a reduction of the Greek phrase 'Zeus Pater' (father Zeus). He was called <i>Jupiter Optimus Maximus</i> as the patron deity and supreme god of the Roman Empire, and brother and husband of <i>Juno</i> , in

God	Meaning:explained meaning. Comments
	charge of laws and social order. Also called Jove. The Romans and the roman legionaries in Asterix always swear by this name. In Latin the common oath "by Jupiter" would be rendered "pro Jove" (Jove being a different form of his name). In the Christian tradition there is no religious significance to this exclamation but English writers, by using it as an expression of surprise or pleasure, avoided taking God's name in vain; thus "by Jupiter" or "by Jove" was used to replace the blasphemous "By God." To describe someone or something as Jovian means that one partakes of that awe-inspiring majesty that is particular to a supreme god.
<i>Toutatis</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Toutatis]	Gaulish god of the village. Only appears as an oath. Also known as Teutates. An ancient Celtic God of war, fertility and wealth (Annotators note: strange mix) worshiped in Gaul. His name means "the god of the people / village / tribe".
<i>Mars</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mars]	Roman god of war, farmers and protector of fields. Mars was also the father of Romulus and Remus, the founders of Rome.
Miscellaneous	There are quite a few gods regularly uttered by the Romans (Jupiter, Minerva, and Mercury). And there are quite a few "one-off" uttering of Gaulish, Greek, Egyptian, Hindu and Roman Gods throughout. e.g. Taranis, Zeus, and Osiris.

Historical Dramatis Personae

Table 3.2. Recurring Historical Characters

Character	Comments
Brutus	Friend, adopted son, and later joint-assassin of Julius Caesar
<i>Caesar, Caius Julius</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_caesar]	Roman general and statesman. Julius Caesar (100 B.C. - 44 B.C.) came to power in 60 B.C. as part of the first triumvirate (the other two in the threesome were Pompey and Crassus).
<i>Cleopatra</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cleopatra]	Daughter of Ptolemy XII, Cleopatra (69 B.C. - 31 B.C.) ruled Egypt between 51 and 30 B.C. After Caesar's assassination she won the heart of Mark Anthony. She killed herself soon after Mark Anthony's defeat at Actium in 31 B.C.
<i>Scipio</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scipio]	Scipio (plural, Scipiones) is a Roman cognomen used by a branch of the Corneli family. The Scipiones were traditional political allies of the Paulii branch of the Aemilius family. Their family tomb, dated to the 3rd century BC and rediscovered in 1780, contained one of the earliest collections of Latin inscriptions, and an important historical source for the Roman Republic.
<i>Vercingetorix</i> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vercingetorix]	A historical character (72-46 BCE). He was a Celtic / Gaulish chieftain born in Auvergnny (in modern-day South Central France). He led the Gallic tribes in a revolt against Roman rule. Although he initially met with success at Gergovia, he was defeated and captured by Caesar at Alesia (near modern Dijon) in 50 BCE. In 46 BCE Vercingetorix was executed in Rome. In the comic he is only used as a reference and seen in flashback of the surrender.

Fictional Dramatis Personae

Table 3.3. Recurring Fictional Characters

Character	Meaning: explained meaning. Comments
Arthritix	(American) Arthritis: a joint disease usually found in the elderly. The village elder.
Asterix	<p>Asterisk: a star ("*"). Our hero. Comes from the Greek <i>asteriskos</i>, small star. It was originally used to draw attention to something unusual or striking. These days it is used to indicate the presence of a footnote, or to show that something is missing.</p> <p>The names Asterix and Obelix are also, partially, visual gags - "The characters actually look like the shapes they're named for. Asterix has six sort of appendages of his body: His arms, his legs and his helmet wings. He's a little fellow, and these make up most of his form. So he really does look like a little asterisk! And Obelix is like the shape of an obelisk - tear-drop shaped."</p>
Belladonna	(American) Belladonna: a poisonous plant of the nightshade family. The chief's wife.
Bacteria	(English) Wife of the fishmonger
Cacofonix	(English) Cacophony: an unmusical din. The village bard.
Dogmatix	<p>Dogmatics: the study of religious dogmas. The small white dog who travels with them.</p> <p>(alt.) Dogmatic: Given to holding and asserting fixed ideas and opinions. This definition fits in nicely with the French name Idéfix. Environmentalist who howls whenever trees are knocked over. It's easy to skim over him, but he's sometimes doing something interesting. The original French name, Idéfix, was chosen by the readers of <i>Pilote</i> in a contest organized in the 60's. Other names that were suggested by readers include <i>Patracourcix</i> and <i>Pa-peurdurix</i>. Goscinny and Uderzo founded the film company Dogmatix Studios to make <i>The Twelve Tasks of Asterix</i>. In the opening credits Dogmatix barks from the middle of the Dogmatix studio logo — à la the lion in the MGM films.</p>
Drinklikafix	Innkeeper who appears in <i>Asterix and the Golden Sickle</i> , <i>Asterix and the Banquet</i> and <i>Asterix in Corsica</i> . Modelled on the French actor Raimu (1883 - 1946).
Epidemix	(US) Epidemic, (illness) affecting a large group of people. The fishmonger.
Fulliautomatix	(English) Fully automatic. The village blacksmith. Running feud with Unhyginix. Pounds on Cacophonix when he tries to sing.
Getafix	(English) Get a fix. The village druid.
Geriatrrix	(English) Geriatrics: the science of aging. The village old fogey (with a nubile young wife).
Impedimenta	(English) Impedimenta: something hindering progress, baggage. The chief's wife.
Macroeconomix	(American) Macroeconomics: the study of economy at a global or national level. The village chief.
Magigimmix	(American) Magic gimmicks. The village druid.
Malacoustix	(American) Malacoustics: bad sound. Village bard.

Recurring characters

Character	Meaning: explained meaning. Comments
Myopia	<p>(English) Definitely not Geriatrix's wife.</p> <p>Peter Kessler says - "There is much speculation whether this is the name of Mrs. Geriatrix. Impedimenta utters it while talking to Mrs. Geriatrix. People disagree whether it is actually the name of Mrs. Geriatrix or just some kind of an oath uttered by Impedimenta. And Uderzo has said that he wanted to retain some mystery around the character as he based her in part on his wide."</p>
Obelix	<p>Asterix's co-hero. Fell in the magic potion as a baby, so can't have any now (except in Asterix And Cleopatra and Asterix and Obelix all at Sea). An obelisk is a small dagger-like typographical symbol (†). It was originally used to mark something that was spurious, doubtful, or obsolete. These days it is used to indicate either the presence of a footnote (if the asterisk has already been used) or, particularly after a person's name, to show that they have kicked the bucket. This and an asterisk are used for footnotes and cross reference in many books and papers. Maybe the authors are attempting to make a joke about how these adventures are a footnote to history. Hendrik Jan has learnt an obelisk, indicated a critical comment, whereas the asterisk indicated a clarification.</p> <p>(alt.) In Greek, Obelix sounds like Ovelias. Ovelias in the ancient Greek word for a spit (the iron thing Gauls use to cook a wild boar on open fire). Thus the name Obelix might have something to do with that, if we take his love for such kind of food into consideration.</p> <p>(alt.) Obelisk: a stone monument with four sides and a pyramidal top, like a squared off menhir.</p> <p>(remote alt.) 'O' meaning round + 'belly' + ix</p>
Pirates	<p>Inspired by another French comic series (Le Démon des Caraïbes) from Pilote magazine in the 60's, These poor SOBs end up getting sunk almost every issue. According to the Official Asterix site, the Captain of the pirates is called Redbeard. Redbeard's son is named Erix. The old one with the crutch is a latin scholar sometimes called "pegleg". The black pirate lookout in the crow's nest is named Baba in most translations but not in the English ones.</p>
Unhygenix	<p>(English) Unhygienic: unclean, dirty. The fishmonger.</p>
Vitalstatistix	<p>(English) Vital statistics: probably referring to his waistline... The village chief.</p>

Chapter 4. Suffixes

One of the main strengths of Asterix (and its various translations) has to be the great character names - puns galore. Through all this, there is also a common usage of the same suffixes (with a few exceptions) to denote different cultures. For example, all of the Gaulish men have names ending with an "-ix", while most of the women have names ending with an "-a". Some of the other common suffixes are:

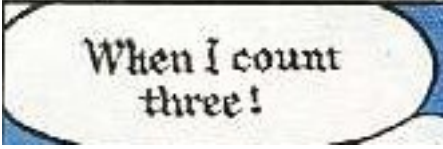

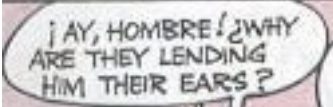
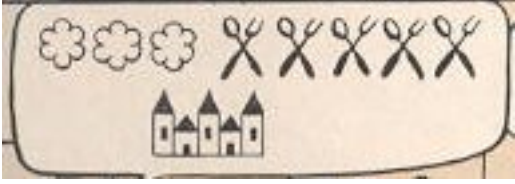
Table 4.1. Common Suffixes

Culture / Country / Region	Suffix
Romans	-us
Greeks	-os or -es or -us
Persians	-es
Britons	-ax
Goths	-ric
Normans	-af
Danes	-sen
Egyptians (also phoenicians)	-is / -et (not very strict)
Iberians	-on
Indian (women)	-ade
Indian (men)	-it / -at. Indian men's name also begin with a questioning prefix such as what-, how-, who-
Vikings	-ssen

Chapter 5. Typography

Another clever trick in the Asterix comics is their use of different fonts, characters or speech bubbles to indicate people speaking different languages.

Table 5.1. Language and fonts

Language	Speech / Font
Goth	<p>Gothic font (what else did you expect ;-)</p>  <p>Example of typography used for Gothic speech</p>
Greek	<p>Pointy letters - like the Greek alphabet. There was no 'v' sound in classical times. 'y' is still pronounced Upsilon in German.</p>  <p>Example of typography used for Greek speech</p>
Iberian	<p>upside-down '¡' and '¿' used as punctuation in the beginning of sentences similar to punctuation used in real Spanish.</p>  <p>Example of typography used for Iberian speech</p>
Egyptians	<p>Mock hieroglyphics</p>  <p>Example of typography used for Egyptian speech</p>
Romans	<p>Printed / Engraved Roman script (like the Mansion of the Gods brochure in the book of the same name) always substitutes 'V's for 'U's. Because the Roman alphabet does not have a 'U'. 'V' was used for both 'U' and 'V'. Just like 's' in English has two sounds (as in "rose" and "sun"). This has survived in official print in Italy. The Italian coins are marked 'Repubblica Italiana' for Italian Republic. Also see entry on Greek.</p>

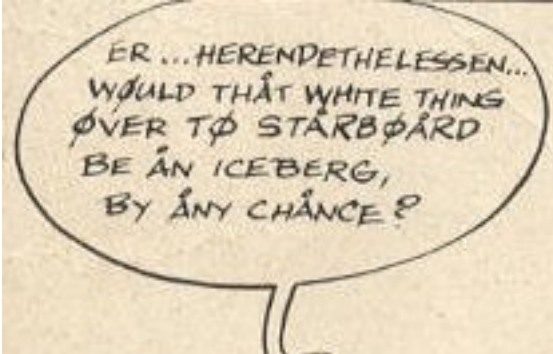

Language	Speech / Font
	<p data-bbox="467 260 1409 485">AT DAWN, WOKEN BY THE MELODIOUS SONG OF THE GAVLISH COCKEREL, THE ROMAN MATRONS GET UP, AS WELL AS THEIR HUSBANDS AND CHILDREN. WHILE THE HUSBAND IS VISITED BY THE BARBER (BOUGHT LOCALLY), THE LADY OF THE HOUSE</p> <p data-bbox="443 499 984 531">Example of typography used for Roman engravings</p>
<p data-bbox="196 548 272 575">Vikings</p>	<p data-bbox="443 548 1398 615">Ø, Å and other typical Scandinavian accented characters. Note that the Gauls with a bad Viking accent use backward slashes and squares (instead of circles).</p> <div data-bbox="443 617 992 968">  <p data-bbox="505 653 948 842">ER...HERENDETHELESSEN... WOULD THAT WHITE THING ØVER TØ STÅRBØÅRD BE ÅN ICEBERG, BY ÅNY CHÅNCE?</p> </div> <p data-bbox="443 978 938 1010">Example of typography used for Viking speech</p>
<p data-bbox="196 1024 431 1121">North American Indians - Native Americans</p>	<p data-bbox="443 1024 540 1052">Pictures?</p> <div data-bbox="443 1058 1422 1654">  <p data-bbox="443 1661 1065 1692">Example of typography used for Native American writings</p> </div>

Table 5.2. Mood and typography

Mood	Typography
Anger / Jealousy	<p data-bbox="441 245 893 279">Green speech bubbles (eg. Roman Agent)</p>  <p data-bbox="441 455 893 489">Example of speech bubbles used for anger</p>
Singing	<p data-bbox="441 497 771 531">Words with musical notations.</p>  <p data-bbox="441 833 893 867">Example of speech bubbles used for songs.</p>
Sweet talk	<p data-bbox="441 875 933 909">Flowery border with birds, musical notes etc.</p>  <p data-bbox="441 1190 950 1224">Example of speech bubbles used for sweet talk</p>

Chapter 6. The Different Editions of Asterix

The original Asterix books (Gaul through Belgium, numbers 1 through 24 in these Annotations) were published by Hodder Dargaud. Thereafter Hodder Children's books published the "more recent" (Great Divide through All at Sea plus some spinoffs, numbers 25 through 30 in these Annotations) new releases. The Hodder Dargaud and Hodder Children's Books issues had the book number printed on the top left hand side of the cover page.

There was one problem with the numbering of books in the Hodder Dargaud editions in English. They were numbered based on the order in which they were translated into English and not on the order in which they were published in the original French. Thus, Asterix in Britain which was the 8th book in French was the 3rd to be translated into English because the publishers of the English translations felt that Asterix in Britain, with its references to things British, was more likely to be relevant and sell more copies than Asterix and the Banquet (5th in French; 23rd in Hodder Dargaud English) with its arcane references to the Tour de France.

In the 1990's older Asterix books (1 through 24) were out of print because of legal wranglings. After a lengthy legal battle, Orion won and the older Asterix books were back on the shelves, albeit in "re-editions". In the Orion editions the covers are redesigned. Inside the books, the Orion editions have all new, and in this author's opinion, better coloring than some of the old Hodder editions. The lettering has also been redone. In the Orion editions the books are numbered based on the order in which they were published in the original French. The Orion editions have the (very small) number only on the spine of the book (not on the cover anymore).

The Annotations have always listed the books in the order in which they were published in French.

Table 6.1. Differences in Book Numbering between Editions

Orion "Re-edition" Numbering	Hodder-Dargaud Numbering	Hodder Children's Books Numbering	Book
1	1	-	Asterix the Gaul
2	15	-	Asterix and the Golden Sickle
3	5	-	Asterix and the Goths
4	6	-	Asterix the Gladiator
5	23	-	Asterix and the Banquet
6	4	-	Asterix and Cleopatra
7	9	-	Asterix and the Big Fight
8	3	-	Asterix in Britain
9	20	-	Asterix and the Normans
10	7	-	Asterix the Legionary

Orion "Re-edition" Numbering	Hodder-Dargaud Numbering	Hodder Children's Books Numbering	Book
11	18	-	Asterix and the Chieftains Shield
12	12	-	Asterix at the Olympic Games
13	17	-	Asterix and the Cauldron
14	2	-	Asterix in Spain
15	10	-	Asterix and the Roman Agent
16	8	-	Asterix in Switzerland
17	11	-	The Mansion of the Gods
18	13	-	Asterix and the Laurel Wreath
19	14	-	Asterix and the Soothsayer
20	24	-	Asterix in Corsica
21	19	-	Asterix and Caesar's Gift
22	16	-	Asterix and the Great Crossing
23	22	-	Obelix and Co
24	25	-	Asterix in Belgium
25	-	26	Asterix and the Great Divide
26	-	27	Asterix and the Black Gold
27	-	28	Asterix and Son
28	-	30	Asterix and the Magic Carpet
29	-	32	Asterix and the Secret Weapon
30	-	35	Asterix and Obelix all at Sea
31	-	-	Asterix and the Actress
32	-	-	Asterix and the Class Act
33	-	-	Asterix and the Falling Sky

Table 6.2. Differences in Spinoff Numbering between Editions

Orion "Re-edition" Numbering	Hodder-Dargaud Numbering	Hodder Children's Books Numbering	Book
-	-	29	Asterix versus Caesar
-	21	-	The Twelve Tasks of Asterix
-	-	34	Asterix conquers America
-	-	31	Operation Getafix
-	-	33	How Obelix fell into the Magic Potion when he was a little boy

Orion "Re-edition" Numbering	Hodder-Dargaud Numbering	Hodder Children's Books Numbering	Book
-	-	-	Asterix Poster Books

Table 6.3. Other Spinoffs (not covered in the Annotations)

Book	English edition published in		
Dogmatix the Athlete	1973		
Dogmatix makes a Friend	1974		
Dogmatix and the Boar Hunt	1974		
Dogmatix and the Storm	1974		
The Well Deserved Tea Party	1974		
Dogmatix and the Parrot	1974		
The Crazy Chase	1974		
Dogmatix at the Circus	1974		
Dogmatix and the Lost Fish	1974		
Dogmatix and the Little Girl	1974		
Dogmatix and the Ugly Little Eagle	1983		
Dogmatix and the Magic Potion	1983		

Part II. Book Annotations



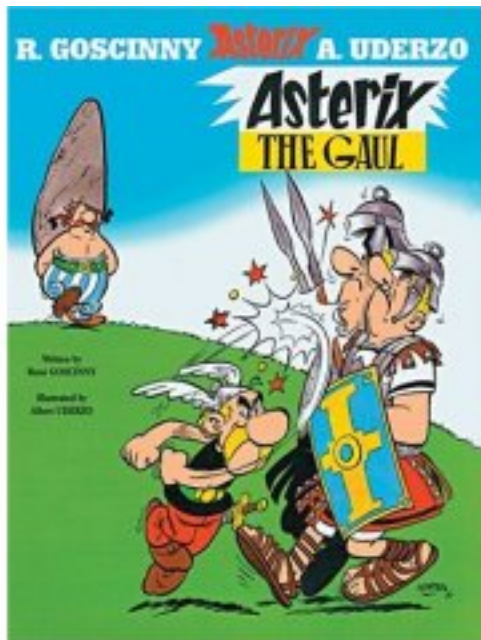
Chapter 1. Asterix the Gaul

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

We are introduced to Asterix and his fellow villagers. When the Romans discover that a magic potion keeps the Gauls invincible, they capture Getafix to try and get the secret formula. But Asterix comes to the rescue...



The first adventure. The drawing is definitely not up to snuff yet, the characters aren't really established yet, the names aren't as imaginative yet in the translation, but the wit is there.

Table I.1. Asterix the Gaul - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 1, Panel 3	The Germanic tribes attacked the Roman Empire quite a bit. Alaric captured Rome in 410 AD.
Page 1, Panel 6	Quid? = What?
Page 1, Panel 8	<p>Ipso facto = thereby (literally 'by the fact itself'). Latin <i>ipso</i> - ablative of <i>ipse</i>, itself + Latin <i>facto</i> ablative of <i>factum</i>, fact.</p> <p>Sic = so, thus. Used in written texts to indicate that a surprising or paradoxical word, phrase, or fact is not a mistake and is to be read as it stands.</p>
Page 1, Panel 10	Vae victo vae victis = Woe to the conquered one, woe to the conquered ones. In 390

Page, Panel	Comment
	<p>B.C., an army of Gauls led by Brennus attacked Rome, capturing all of the city except for the Capitoline Hill. Brennus besieged the hill and finally Romans came out wishing to ransom their city. He decided that Romans had to pay 1000 pounds (327 kg) of gold and Romans agreed. Gauls provided steelyard and weights, and Romans came out to bring their gold. But they noticed that weights were counterfeited and dared to notify Brennus about the issue. Brennus took his sword, threw it over the weights and exclaimed: "Vae victis!", forcing Romans to bring even more gold to fulfill their obligation.</p> <p>Accidence = The section on morphology that deals with the inflection of words. Middle English, from Late Latin <i>accidentta</i>, from Latin <i>accidens</i>, <i>accident</i>, <i>accident</i> (referring to the earlier comments by the soldiers). A pun on 'accidents'.</p>
Page 3, Panel 1	Done to a turn = (culinary) cooked, well done. In reference to the turns of the spit.
Page 4, Panel 5	Musical chairs probably originated as a Victorian party game, here attributed to "ancient Rome" as usual.
Page 8, Panel 5	Marco Polo introduced precious spices and silk worms (smuggled out in a monks' cane) from China to the West. Although spaghetti, as we know them today, are a specialty created in Napoli, noddles were first imported from China.
Page 10, Panel 2	Vini, vidi, vici = I came, I saw, I won. Julius Caesar used the phrase as the full text of his message to the Roman senate describing his recent victory over Pharnaces II of Pontus in the Battle of Zela. Caesar's terse remark simultaneously proclaimed the totality of his victory and served to remind the senate of Caesar's military prowess (Caesar was still in the midst of a civil war); alternatively, the remark can be viewed as an expression of Caesar's contempt for the patrician senate, traditionally representing the most powerful group in the Roman Republic.
Page 10, Panel 4	Alea jacta est = the die is cast. Reportedly said by Julius Caesar on January 19, 49 BC as he led his troops across the River Rubicon in Northern Italy out of the province assigned to him by the Roman Senate beginning his long civil war with Pompey and the Optimates. It implies that he has taken a chance and has passed a point of no return, i.e., he cannot take back what he has done, much like the gambler who has wagered everything on a throw of the dice. Caesar was said to have borrowed the phrase from his favorite Greek poet-dramatist Menander. As there was no letter or sound for "j" in the Classical Latin spoken by Julius Caesar, he would have said "iacta".
Page 12, Panel 8	"Sixth day of the new moon" = Pliny the Elder in his almanac work called 'Histories' wrote that the Druids began their month on the sixth day of the new moon, and that this day was considered auspicious for a mistletoe cutting ritual. He gives an account of white-clad Druids climbing oak trees to cut sacred mistletoe from them using gold sickles. The mistletoe was caught by attendants waiting below with a white cloth. Two white bulls were sacrificed during this rite.
Page 14, Panel 5	Potato = drink
Page 16, Panel 10	Quo vadis = where are you going?
Page 17, Panel 6	Ave (Caesar)! Morituri... = Hail Caesar! We who are about to die salute you! Said to Caesar by gladiators before combat.
Page 21, Panel 2	M1 - A highway in England

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 22, Panel 2	"Hit the hay" = slang for going to bed.
Page 23, Panel 9	Triumvirate = three-way rule. [Latin <i>triumviratus</i> , from <i>triumbiri</i> , board of three.]
Page 26, Panel 10	"Aut Caesar, Aut nihil" = Caesar or nothing. The motto of Cesare Borgia (1476-1507)
Page 27, Panel 8	Aqua = water (or aqua vitae, alcohol)
Page 30, Panel 9	Quid novi? = what's new? Sursum corda = lift your hearts (Latin Mass). Sur"sum cor"da [L. sursum upward + corda hearts.] In the Eucharist, the versicles immediately before the preface, inviting the people to join in the service by lifting up the heart to God.
Page 32, Panel 5	Vanitas vanitatum... = vanity of vanities, and everything is vanity (Ecclesiastes 1:2, Vulgate). Gryphius, Andreas (1616-64), German poet-dramatist, originally named Andreas Greif, wrote in Latin, new High German, and Silesian dialect. Among his many sonnets, odes, epigrams, and religious lyrics is the famous "Vanitas! Vanitatum Vanitas!" de facto = in actual fact. Exercising power though not legally or officially established. [Latin : <i>de</i> , from, according to + <i>facto</i> ablative of <i>factum</i> , fact.] Quomodo vales = How do you do?
Page 34, Panel 3	"Here's hair on your chest" = A pun on the idiom "it will put hair on your chest." Meaning it will make a man of you.
Page 41, Panel 9	Curlylocks... = A poem by James Whicomb Riley [http://www.ongoing-tales.com/SERIALS/oldtime/POErowY/curlylocks.html] that goes: Curly Locks! Curly Locks! Wilt thou be mine? Thou shalt not wash the dishes, nor yet feed the swine, But sit on a cushion and sew a fine seam, And feast upon strawberries, sugar and cream.
Page 42, Panel 5	Vade retro = go behind, get thee behind me.
Page 43, Panel 6	"Render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's" = Luke 20:22

Table I.2. Asterix the Gaul - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Crismus Bonus	Christmas Bonus.
Julius Pompus	Pompous.
Marcus Ginantonicus	Gin and tonic
Caligula Minus	Minus is a diminutive. Caligula refers to Emperor Caligula, who was famous for being warped and cruel; Caligula = little boot, so a double diminutive here!

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Tenansix	Ten and six: ten shillings and sixpence, or half a guinea, in British money of the time.
Tullius Octopus	Octopus. Tullius is a Roman name.
Gracchus Sextilius	Sextillion: In France and the US, 10 ²¹ . In England and Germany, 10 ³⁶ . Gracchus is a common Roman name. It was also the Ancient Roman name for the month July. The month was later renamed July in honor of Julius Caesar. Also see the annotation for 'Claudius Quintilius' below)
Claudius Quintilius	A quintillion. In France and the US, 10 ¹⁸ . In England and Germany, 10 ³⁰ . Claudius is standard Roman. It was also the Ancient Roman name for the month August. The month was later renamed to August in honor of Augustus Caesar. Also see the annotation for 'Gracchus Sextilius' above)
Caius Flebitus	A double pun. Caius is a common Roman name. Flebitus could be 'Phlebitis' which is a disease of inflamed veins showing up often in the legs. It could also be 'Flea Bits'

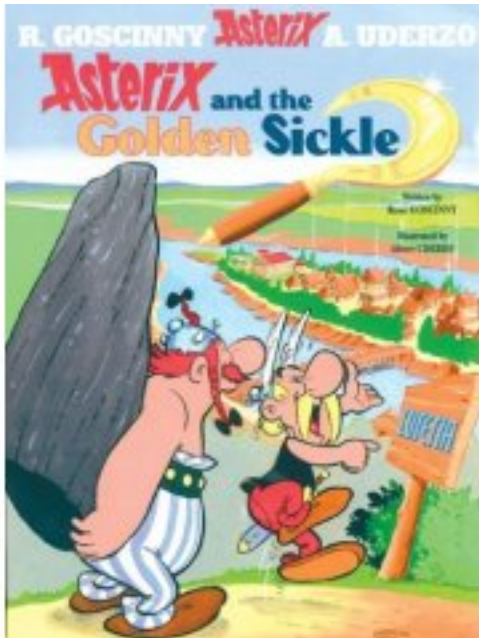
Chapter 2. Asterix and the Golden Sickle

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

Getafix has broken his golden sickle, so Asterix and Obelix visit Lutetia to buy a new one for him. But, the sicklesmith — Asterix's cousin — vanishes without a trace. Where could he have gone? And can Asterix solve the mystery and bring Getafix what he needs?



Another early one as can be seen from the cruder drawings. The first book with special guest appearances — Uderzo and French actor Raimu.

Table 2.1. Asterix and the Golden Sickle - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 1, Panel 2	"There'll always be..." = World War II-era Nationalistic song "There'll Always be an England" (words and music by Ross Parker and Hugh Charles)
Page 2, Panel 6	The carnutes were by modern day Orleans
Page 6, Panel 1	Auf wiedersehen = goodbye
Page 6, Panel 6	"the great ox-cart race, the Suindinum 24 hours" is a reference to the 24 hours car race in Le Mans, France. Suindinum is the old name of Le Mans. A homage to Jean Graton, comic book author, whose series about the race car driver Michael Vaillant is a classic in France.

Page, Panel	Comment
	Jean Graton is seen as the blue tunic-ed chariot driver.
Page 7, Panel 4	Ben Hur = Character from the novel by Lewis Wallace. Anachronism. Wallace's book is set in the first century A.D.
Page 13, Panel 10	Cave = beware
Page 14, Panel 3	Pompeii is a city in S. Italy buried under mud and ash by Vesuvius in 79 AD - an anachronism.
Page 14, Panel 7	Vade retro = move back
Page 16, Panel 1	Actor Charles Laughton (1899-1962) — a famous American actor who played Roman statesmen in films by Cecil B DeMille — was the model for Surplus Dairiprodus.
Page 18, Panel 4	The new owner of wine shop is a caricature of French actor Raimu who also had a typical accent from Marseille..
Page 19, Panel 4	Agelian = Sens
Page 24, Panel 1	Alcoholix = In the original French the wine merchant was named 'Saintgés' — a tip of the hat by Goscinny and Uderzo to their wine merchant friend of that name. Some translators (German, Spanish, etc.) left the reference intact while some (English, Dutch, etc.) used local puns.
Page 24, Panel 9	Mola Rubra = Red Mill = Moulin Rouge, a famous night club in paris
Page 24, Panel 10	Any chance that this little dog in the Lutetian street is the first drawing of Dogmatix? Except for the black eye and the spot on his back, there are similarities.
Page 25, Panel 5	Bois de Boulogne is a large forest near Paris.
Page 39, Panel 9	Quis, quid, ubi, quibus auxiliis, cur, quomodo, quando? = Who, what, where, by what means, why, how, when?
Page 39, Panel 11	"Acta est fabula, plaudite cives" = "The story is over, applause, citizens!" Said by Cicero or Cato Sr. on his deathbed. "Acta est fabula" was common as an ending in theaters. Literally, "The fairy tale has been acted."
Page 42, Panel 1	"I Love Paris in the Springtime" by Cole Porter

Table 2.2. Asterix and the Golden Sickle - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Alcoholix	Alcoholic
Metallurgix	Metallurgic: having to do with the working of metals.
Navishtricks	Knaveish tricks: a knave is a villain. From "God Save the Queen": "Confound their politics, frustrate their knaveish tricks..."
Clovogarlix	Clove of garlic
Surplus Dairiprodus	Surplus dairy produce: extra milk.
Claudius Omnibus	Omnibus: double decker bus

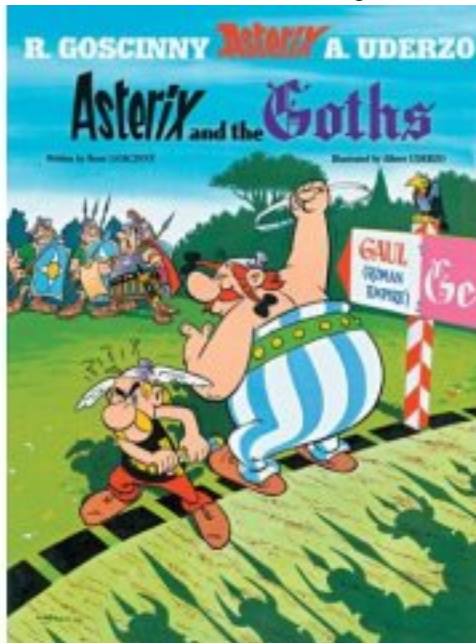
Chapter 3. Asterix and the Goths

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

After the annual druid conference in the Forest of the Carnutes, Getafix is captured by the Goths. So Asterix & Obelix travel eastward to bring him home.



The drawing still isn't up to later form, and some characters are still underdeveloped, most notably the other villagers. The great naming has begun. Goth (Germania) is Germany, pretty much. That's gothic script when they speak.

Table 3.1. Asterix and the Goths - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 1, Panel 1	Forest of the Carnutes: meeting place of the druids, the Celtic tribe of the Carnutes lived in the neighbourhood of where Orleans and Chartres now are. Caesar (Yes. Old Julius himself ;-), <i>in his writings</i> [http://mcadams.posc.mu.edu/txt/caesar/index.htm], mentions the yearly druid conference where they conferred and resolved conflicts. The Forest of Carnutes is also mentioned three times in the previous album 'Asterix and the Golden Sickle' (page 2, panel 7; page 10, panel 9; page 16, panel 8).
Page 2, Panel 5	Visigoth = west goth, Ostrogoth = east goth
Page 2, Panel 9	Errare humanum est = to err is human (Alexander Pope, An Essay on Criticism l.525)
Page 6, Panel 3	Dariorigum = Town of Thiers. Famous for its knives. Especially for those called "Laguiole."

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 15, Panel 8	Quid = what
Page 16, Panel 1	A bad pun. The closest translation for visi is probably as a pun for "vici" (I was victorious).
Page 16, Panel 4	Video meliora proboque deteriora sequor = I see and try the better things [but] follow the worse ones. (Ovid, Metamorphoses vii.20)
Page 23, Panel 2	<p>An anachronism. Alaric captured Rome in 410 AD. The song is a parody of "The Noble Duke of York,":</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Oh, the noble Duke of York, He had ten thousand men. He marched them up to the top of the hill And he marched them down again.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">And when they were up, they were up, And when they were down, they were down, And when they were only half-way up, They were neither up nor down."</p> <p>The leader of the troop is Otto von Bismarck (1815-1898) or Emperor Wilhelm, the Kaiser (1858-1941). This is probably a period caricature that also appeared in Monty Python's Flying Circus.</p>
Page 23, Panel 4	"It's a Long Way to Tipperary" WW I-era music hall and marching song written by Jack Judge and Harry Williams in 1912.
Page 32, Panel 1	In 1654 Otto von Guericke, a German physicist and burgomaster of Magdeburg showed the existence of vacuum in the presence of the Imperial Assembly. He joined hemispheres airtight and pumped the air out with a tap. The force created by the atmospheric pressure was so big that 16 horses (8 on each side) could not manage to disconnect the hemispheres. Based on Guericke's experiments Denis Papin, a French Doctor, twenty years later (and on page 36 ;-)) built the relief-valved pressure cooker.
Page 33, Panel 1	"Fire burn and cauldron bubble" = From the three witches in Shakespeare's Macbeth.
Page 34, Panel 3	We call it Battleship. A quinquereme is a Roman warship with five sets of oars on each side.
Page 34, Panel 7	The Black Eagle is an old German military symbol. It originated as the Prussian black eagle, some say adopted in the seventeenth century to contrast with Poland's (at that time) white eagle flag. It was maintained throughout the 19 th century, the unification of Germany, the 3 rd reich, and is still on the coat of arms of Germany.

Table 3.2. Asterix and the Goths - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Arteriosclerosis	Arteriosclerosis: hardening of the arteries, can lead to heart attacks
Gastroenteritus	Gastroenteritis: infected stomach and intestines.
Choleric	Choleric: quick tempered, irritable
Tartaric	Tartaric: containing tartar or tartaric acid (not tartar sauce, but the crust formed in wine jugs)
Athmospheric	Atmospheric: Relating to or located in the atmosphere
Prehistoric	Belonging to or existing in times before recorded history
Esoteric	Rare, unusual
Valueaddetax	Value added tax: a British indirect sales tax paid at each step of production and distribution of a good based on the value added at that stage
Cadaverus	Cadaverous: like a corpse
Botanix	Botany: study of plants
Prefix	Coming before something
Suffix	Coming after sometime, usually in language. "ix" is a suffix. :)
Cantankerus	Cantankerous: crabby, choleric
Marcus Ubiquitus	Ubiquitous = everywhere, omnipresent
Julius Monotonus	Monotonous = boring, monotony inducing
Metric	System of measurements. A standard in most parts of the world.
Rhetoric	The art of using words effectively
General Electric	A U.S. company (GE)
Euphoric	Vigorous, high spirited, happy
Lyric	Song-like, also a form of poetry
Satiric	Engaging in satire.
Eccentric	Deviating from some accepted pattern.

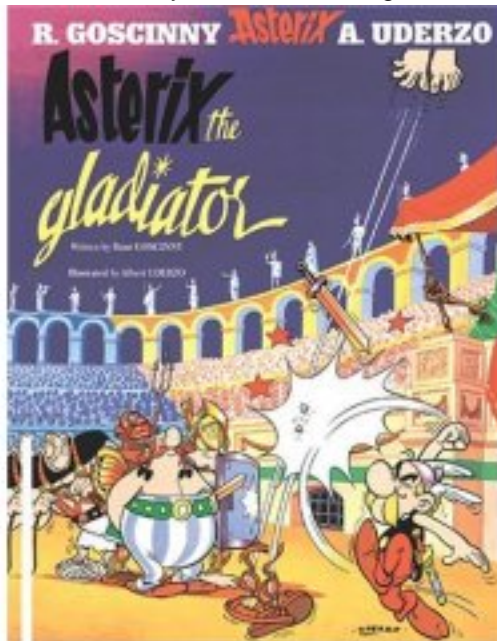
Chapter 4. Asterix the Gladiator

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

A Roman prefect has Cacophonix captured, as a present for Caesar. Asterix & Obelix travel to Rome to get him back. There they have to train as gladiators to get into the Circus and save him...



Early period. The drawing is a bit off, the Romans look different, and Asterix, Obelix, and Getafix are the only well-defined characters, Vitalstatistix looks strange. This story "features" Cacophonix. Obelix starts his helmet collecting habit here, and the pirates make their first appearance.

Table 4.1. Asterix the Gladiator - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 2, Panel 7-8	"Maybe it's because I'm a ... that I love" = Take off on a rousing cockney chorus "Maybe it's because I'm a Londoner that love London so..."
Page 2, Panel 8	The Geneva Convention (1864) places limits on what weapons can be used in warfare.
Page 3, Panel 8	"I'm only a bard..." = Allusion to the line "She is only a bird in a gilded cage" from the song "A bird in a Gilded Stage" by Harry Von Tilzer (aka. Harry Gumm) (1872-1946)
Page 5, Panel 8	A play on "Friends, Romans, Countrymen" - Mark Antony in Shakespeare's 'Julius Caesar' (Act 3, Scene 2, Line 78)
Page 7, Panel 5	Alea jacta est = the die is cast (Julius Caesar)

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 10, Panel 4	The symbols are letters from the Phoenician alphabet. The letters are "taw", "yodh" and "res". They mean "mark", "arm" and "head" respectively.
Page 11, Panel 8	Vanitas vanitatum... = vanity of vanities, and everything is vanity (Ecclesiastes 1:2, Vulgate)
Page 14, Panel 7	Via Appia = Appian Way. Only problem is that Rome's nearest port, Portus Augusti, was linked to Rome by the Via Vitellia and Via Portuensis
Page 16, Panel 4	Apodyteria = Dressing / changing room; Sudatoria = Sweating Baths (sauna); Caldarium = Hot Room; Frigidarium = Cold Room;
Page 17, Panel 9	Ostia = Porter
Page 18, Panel 10	Cubiculum = small sleeping compartment; Triclinium = dining room with couch
Page 18, Panel 11	GLC = Greater London Council
Page 26, Panel 9	Giblet = various parts of a bird, such as the neck, heart gizzard
Page 30, Panel 9	"Album, in the province of Sternum" = Sternum is a breast bone / rib cage.
Page 31, Panel 4	Note the Egyptians walking in profile.
Page 33, Panel 1	"Roman in the Gloamin..." = "Roamin' in the Gloamin", a popular Scottish song by the entertainer Sir Harry Lauder
Page 33, Panel 6	"Love is a many splendid things..." = ????
Page 34, Panel 1	Canes calidi = hot dogs; Chiplotae = A small sausage; Persic = A reference to a brand of washing powder called Persil. Because of the resemblance to Persian, a Persian salesman is selling it.
Page 34, Panel 2	Panem et circenses = bread and circuses. A derogatory phrase coined by Juvenal (Satires x.80 60-130 AD) which can describe either government policies to pacify the citizenry, or the shallow, decadent desires of that same citizenry. He used it to describe the practice of Roman Emperors who gave unlimited free wheat to the poor and costly circus games as a means of pacifying the populace with food and entertainment. In fact, the system of free or heavily subsidized food distribution was limited to a minority of Roman Citizens holding a special token (tessera) entitling them to a monthly supply of grain and olive oil from the reign of Septimus Severus. The rations were probably too small to feed a family and the receivers were not necessarily poor or in need of free food. This does not change the fact that the food supply to a city the size of Rome was of primary concern to the emperors in order to avoid popular unrest.
Page 34, Panel 4	'Et tu brute' = 'Julius Caesar' by Shakespeare (Act 3, Scene 1, Line 77)
Page 35, Panel 1	"Drinka..." = A reference to "Drinka Pinta Milka Day". An advertisement slogan used in Britain some time ago.
Page 35, Panel 8	"Auld Lang Syne" - a poem by Robert Burns that has become one of the best known songs in English-speaking countries. Traditionally sung on New Year's Day.
Page 36, Panel 9	Plaudite cives = "Acta est fabula, plaudite cives" meaning "The story is over, applause, citizens!" Said by Cicero or Cato Sr. on his deathbed.
Page 37, Panel 7	Goodbye to the forum ???
Page 38, Panel 5	Ave Caesar! Morituri... = Hail Caesar! We who are about to die salute you!
Page 39, Panel 1	Mirmillo = a type of gladiator, usually paired with a Thracian

Table 4.2. Asterix the Gladiator - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Odius Asparagus	Odious asparagus: odius=hateful, offensive or disagreeable. A caricature of Georges Fromental, leading specialist on Westerners.
Gracchus Armisurplus	Army surplus
Picanmix	Pick and mix
Ekonomikrisis	Economy crisis or economic crisis
Caius Fatuous	Fatuous: silly, foolish
Instantmix	Instant mix
Insalubrius	Insalubrious: not promoting health and welfare
Porpus	Porpoise
Sendervictorius	Send her victorious: a line from "God Save the Queen"
Appianglorius	Happy and glorious: the next line of "God Save the Queen"
Brutus	Historical: Marcus Junius Brutus, adopted son of Julius Caesar and one of the conspirators who murdered him

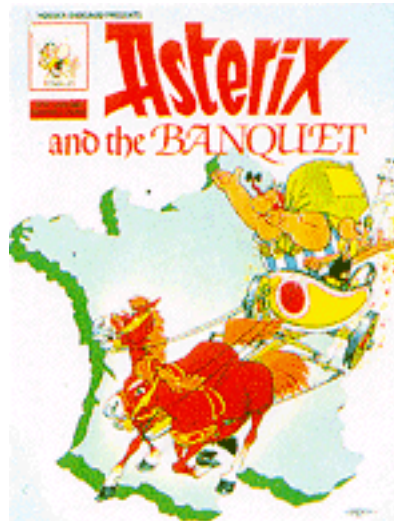
Chapter 5. Asterix and the Banquet

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Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

When the Romans try to blockade the Gaulish village, Asterix & Obelix break out and go on a tour of Gaul to collect the local delicacies around the country. The Romans try and stop them every step of the way...



More early style. This is basically "Asterix in France." The title of this book in French is "'Le Tour de Gaule d'Asterix," a reference to the Tour de France. Some of the references in the story (such as the people pushing the cart when they arrive in Aginum) are references to this. A Fulliautomatix shows up, but he is no relation to the later one. First appearance of Dogmatix! No name yet, but he appears on page 9, panel 6. He follows them throughout the story, but Obelix only notices him on the last page!

Table 5.1. Asterix and the Banquet - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 3, Panel 8	Exegi monumentum aere perennius = I have built a monument more lasting than bronze (Horace, Odes III.xxx.i).
Page 4, Panel 8	Caius Fatuous: from Asterix the Gladiator
Page 6, Panel 6	People in Normandy are noted for the expression "Maybe, maybe not" (in French: "Pt'et'ben qu'oui, pt'et'ben qu'non..." with a heavy country accent).
Page 10, Panel 3	Matron: old lady
Page 11, Panel 5	Humbug: striped hard round mint candy
Page 13, Panel 9	Magnum: bottle holding 2/5 gallon of wine, twice as much as a usual bottle
Page 14, Panel 4	Brut: very dry; Sec: dry; Demi-sec: somewhat dry; Doux: (douce) sweet. Dry here means

Page, Panel	Comment
	not sweet.
Page 14, Panel 5	Mumms is a brand of Champagne (they are in Reims after all - the home of champagne). All the bottles carry the characteristic red stripe of Mumms.
Page 20, Panel 2	That's the symbol of the French Post Offices (PTT Postes, Telegrammes et Telephones)
Page 23, Panel 4	A reference to Hansel and Gretel.
Page 24, Panel 4	The logo is a play on BP (British Petroleum) "If ifs and ands were cauldrons and amphoras...." = A play on the lines "If ifs and ands were pots and pans...." in the nursery rhyme that begins "If wishes were horses".
Page 25, Panel 3	In the original French, this cart has a license plate that looks like the ones in use in France today, with a little "G" (for Gaul) sticker.
Page 26, Panel 8	Mistral: cold, dry north wind that blows over the Mediterranean region of France. Vesuvius didn't erupt till 79 AD.
Page 27, Panel 2	We see the French actor Raimu caricatured in this panel. This is also a take off on the card-playing scene in the French movie 'Marius'. Also see annotations for Page 28, Panel 6 below.
Page 27, Panel 7	Pastis: A yellowish French cordial wine flavored with licorice and aniseed. Very popular in Southern France; associated by many to holidays and hot summer days. Like the Turkish 'raki', Lebanese 'arak' or the Greek 'ouzo'.
Page 28, Panel 6	A take off on the Petanque game scene on the old French movie 'Fanny'. Both 'Marius' (see annotations for Page 27, Panel 2 above) and 'Fanny' were originally theatre plays (and later films) by the French author Marcel Pagnol. Fanny, Marius and Cesar, together, make the Pagnol trilogy. There is most probably a caricature of the film Cesar here as well???
Page 28, Panel 8	The French Revolution, 1789 AD, and "La Marseillaise," the French national anthem.
Page 33, Panel 2	Aginum = Roman name for Agen.
Page 40, Panel 9	Victrix causa diis placuit sed victa catoni = The victorious cause pleases the gods, but the conquered one pleases Cato [the younger] (Lucan, Pharsalia I.128)

Table 5.2. Asterix the Gaul - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Lotuseatus	Lotus eater: A person who is indolent, dreamy or forgetful
Overanxious	Over anxious
Fulliautomatix	Fully automatic
Ulna	Ulna: Thinner bone between the elbow and hand
Radius	Radius: Thicker bone between the elbow and hand
Nervus Illnus	Nervous illness: a mental breakdown

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Goldenslumbus	Golden slumbers
Fishfingus	Fish fingers: breaded strips of fish
Spongefingus	Sponge: raised bread dough; fingers: strips
Unpatriotix	Unpatriotic
Poisonus Fungus	Poisonous fungus
Jellibabix	Jelly babies: jellybean like candy in the shape of a baby
Fibrositus	Fibrositis: an excessive growth of white fibrous tissue due to inflammation
Cesar Drinklikafix	Drink like a fish: said of a heavy drinker
Tunafix	Tuna fish
Hydrophobia	Hydrophobia: rabies, or fear of water
Adipus	Adipose: fatty tissue
Uptotrix	Up to tricks
Villanus	Villanous
Unscrupulus	Unscrupulous
General Motus	General Motors: American car company (GM).
Seniorservix	Senior service: name given to Royal Navy by other British forces, as it was the first organized as a whole. Also a brand of cigarettes.

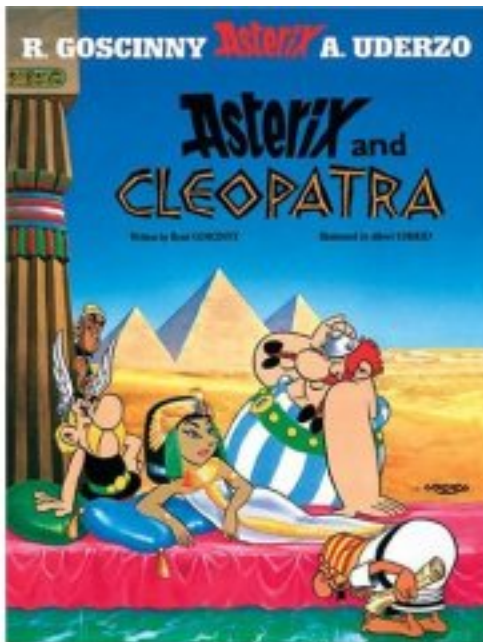
Chapter 6. Asterix and Cleopatra

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Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

When Cleopatra bets Caesar that she can build a palace in three months, Asterix, Obelix & Getafix travel to Egypt to help her architect. There they encounter opposition from both the Romans and a rival architect...



Billed as "The greatest story ever drawn. 14 litres of india ink, 30 brushes, 62 soft pencils, 1 hard pencil, 27 rubbers [erasers], 1984 sheets of paper, 16 typewriter ribbons, 2 typewriters, 366 pints of beer went into its creation!" (this is a takeoff on all the statistics given for the film Ben Hur or Cleopatra???). Uderzo really gets to show what he can do. The first example of how brilliant the books could be with foreign countries, and a great lead-in to The Big Fight.

The translators must have done their bit of drinking as well. For the Dutch and the Hungarian version, the list is mostly the same (instead of 1984 sheets of paper 38 kilos of paper was used). The Hungarian translation does not list soft pencils and the beer consumption is listed as only 67 litres which is 118 pints!

Sadly, these additional notes that appeared on the cover of the original Hodder-Dargaud edition have been removed in the Orion "re-edition".

Vitalstatistix takes final form here, and an early Fulliautomatix pounds Cacophonix. The pirates return, starting a tradition. Caesar finally remembers the three gauls. Obelix gets some magic potion! The story make great play of Cleopatra's nose. Blaise Pascal once said "If the nose of Cleopatra had been a little shorter, the whole face of the world would have changed."

Table 6.1. Asterix and Cleopatra - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 2, Panel 9	Is the game being played the dice game "421"???
Page 3, Panel 4	"My dear old Getafix, I hope I find you well" = Edifis says "Hello" to Getafix in Alexandrine. Alexandrine refers to verse of poetry of twelve syllables with an accent on the sixth and twelfth syllables and a break after the sixth syllable. The name Alexandrine comes from the old French poem Roman d'Alexandre written around 1180.
Page 3, Panel 8	The Great Library of Alexandria — the world's first state-funded scientific institute. Contained over 700,000 scrolls. Burned twice. The second time, destroyed utterly.
Page 7, Panel 2	Cleopatra bet Marc Antony that she could drink a certain amount of money. She dissolved two pearls in vinegar and drank it to win the bet.
Page 8, Panel 2	That's EDIFIS written on the front of the house with Greek letters
Page 11, Panel 1	Lentil = a bean
Page 22, Panel 6	The obelisk on the right was a present to Emperor Louis-Phillippe of France by Mohammed Ali, Viceroy of Egypt in 1831. It was set up in Paris in the Place de la Concorde on October 25, 1836. Hence the reference. The panel also shows a row of sphinxes.
Page 26, Panel 8	Egyptian inscriptions are renowned for having people in profile. Why ???
Page 29, Panel 2	Note people in profile again.
Page 29, Panel 7	"Tarzan" and "Peanuts".
Page 34, Panel 7	"We've got the stones, the men, and the druid too" = Take off on a popular music hall anthem from circa 1878 (During the British-Russian confrontation over Turkey) by G.W.Hunt which goes "We don't want to fight, yet by Jingo if we do, we've got the ships, we've got the men, and got the money too."
Page 36, Panel 4	Ita diis placuit = So the gods ordained (literally: so it pleased the gods)
Page 37, Panel 3	"I before E except after C" - Common English rule to spell words where 'I' and 'E' are next to each other. Exceptions to this rule include 'weird' and 'weight'
Page 37, Panel 9	On stage, actors in crowd scenes traditionally say 'Rhubarb' continually to simulate the noise made by a crowd. 'Watermelon', 'Peas' and 'Carrots' said to be other popular words used for this purpose.
Page 43, Panel 3	The Suez Canal, which was built around the end of the 19th century by the Suez Co., a French company. The Suez canal was opened in 1869.

Table 6.2. Asterix and Cleopatra - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Cleopatra	Historical: 69-30 BC, queen of Egypt and mistress of Julius Caesar and Mark Antony. There were many Cleopatras in History but, this is the famous one.

Asterix and Cleopatra

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Edifis	Edifice: large, imposing building
Nastiupset	Nasty upset
Sethisbackup	Set this back up, or set his back up (to annoy someone)
Artifis	Artifice: a sly or artful trick
Exlibris	Ex libris: "belonging to the library of"
Krukhut	Crew cut: extremely short military haircut, or maybe "crooked"
Mintjulep	Mint julep: cocktail made from bourbon, sugar, crushed ice and mint
Superfluous	Superfluous: extra, not necessary
Operachorus	Opera chorus

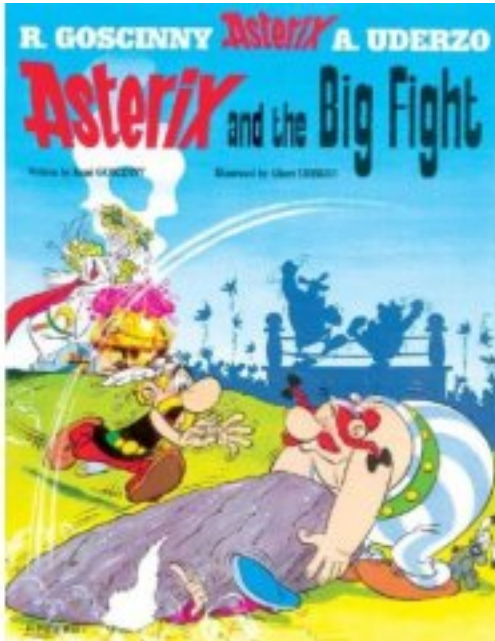
Chapter 7. Asterix and the Big Fight

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Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

The Romans get the chief of another village to challenge Vitalstatistix to a fight for their villages. But when Getafix loses his memory and can't make the magic potion, the village's future is in doubt..



Another early one. The drawing is almost up to later standards, but not quite. The main five are here (from the front intro) but that's about it. Impedimenta is ill defined, Fulliautomatix and Geriatrix show up in early form, but only in a crowd scene. IMO, the first truly brilliant Asterix as far as the jokes and puns go.

Table 7.1. Asterix and the Big Fight - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 2, Panel 2	The centurion looks like Italian dictator Mussolini. It may also be noted that Nebulus Nimbus is always shouting (only 3 exceptions)
Page 6, Panel 5	Jugged hare = hare cooked in a covered earthenware container
Page 9, Panel 9	"If you were the only Gaul in the world" = "If you were the only girl in the world" — a 1916 song written by Clifford Grey and Nat D. Ayer
Page 11 Panel 1	"Friends, Romans et. al..." = Mark Anthony in Shakespeare's play
Page 11, Pane 3	Mensa, et. al. = Mensa means table. It is the traditional example given for a first declension feminine noun. A Latin noun is usually declined in the order: Nominative (subject), Vocat-

Page, Panel	Comment
	ive (address), Accusitive (object), Gentive (of), Dative (to or for) and Ablative (by, with or from). Hence for the singular: mensa, mensa, mensam, mensae, mensae, mensa.
Page 12, Panel 4	Order of the Bath = British honorary award, can be added on to your last name. British order of knighthood. Named from the bath preceding installation.
Page 14, Panel 1	Victurus te saluto = I who am going to win greet you. Reference to "Morituri te salutant," used by gladiators to salute the Emperor.
Page 15, Panel 5	Quod erat demonstrandum = which was the thing to be proved (Euclid). Used in proofs as QED. Cassius Ceramix's quote "Quite easily done" is a common, simple (yet sarcastic) interpretation of QED (for those who cannot remember the Latin).
Page 19, Panel 1	Dulce et... = Lovely and honourable it is to die for one's country. (Horace, Odes III.ii.13)
Page 21, Panel 1	"Pompey's body lies in a-mouldering the but..." = "John Brown's Body", a famous Union marching song of the American Civil War. It was a tribute to the abolitionist acts of Jon Brown. The tune, probably written by William Steffe in 1855-56, was later used for "The Battle Hymn of the Republic".
Page 26, Panel 9	That patient thinks himself Napoleon Bonaparte. No wonder they don't know who he thinks he is in the Ancient world. He isn't going to be born for almost another 1800 years!
Page 33, Panel 8	Sotto voce = in a undertone (quite voice)
Page 34, Panel 3	Dodgem chariots = A reference to the British Dodgems (American - bumper cars)
Page 34, Panel 6	Mirmillo = A type of Gladiator; Menagerix = Menagerie - A collection of animals for exposition; Marsupilami = A fictitious animal with yellow fur, black spots and long tail. A tribute to the character created by Belgian artist André Franquin as part of the series Spirou and Fantasio.
Page 34, Panel 6	W.H. Smix - W.H. Smith is a large British bookstore chain. In the French, the sign is "PI-LOTIX" - Pilote was a comics magazine in which Asterix was first published. The animal on the sign is known as the Marsupilami, known in some places as Kokomiko.
Page 36, Panel 5	Alea jacta est = the die is cast (Julius Caesar)
Page 39, Panel 10	Is this a reference to Mohammed Ali's famous quote "I am the greatest"??
Page 41, Panel 1	Ceneus = wedge shaped.
Page 1, Panel 3	The Germanic tribes attacked the Roman Empire quite a bit. Alaric captured Rome in 410 AD.

Table 7.2. Asterix and the Big Fight - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Nebulus Nimbus	Nebulous:fuzzy, out of focus; nimbus=glow surrounding something, like an aura.
Felonius Caucus	Felonious:criminal; caucus=controlling organization in a British political party.
Linoleum	Linoleum: shiny floor covering.

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Cassius Ceramix	Ceramics: baked clay, earthenware. Cassius is a Roman name. Also a play on Cassius Clay, which was Mohammed Ali's given name.
Professor Berlix	M.D. Berlitz's language lessons (started in 1878) are rather famous.
Prawnsinaspix	Prawns in aspic. Prawn=like a large shrimp, aspic=jelly or relish.
Infirmofpurpus	Infirm of purpose: has doubts.
Psychoanalytix	Psychoanalytics: basically, mind doctoring
Bicarbonatofsoda	Bicarbonate of soda: baking soda
Liquorix	Licorice
Icelollix	Ice lollie = Flavoured ice block on a stick.

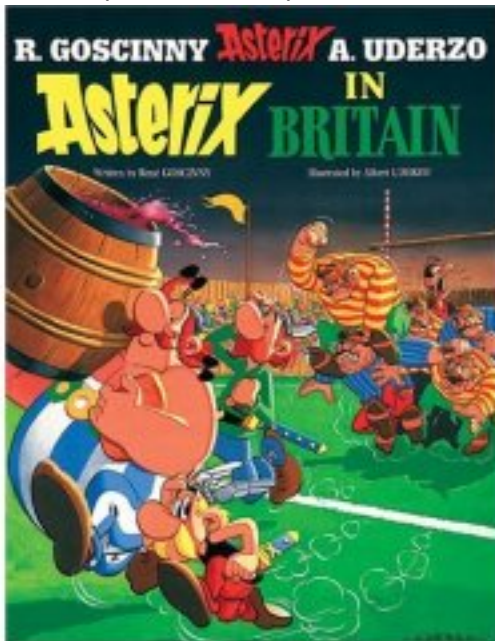
Chapter 8. Asterix in Britain

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Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract


The Romans have invaded Britain, but a village still holds out against them. Asterix & Obelix cross the Channel to help the Britons repel the Romans...



This is advertised on the English translation as "The Greatest Asterix Adventure." It's very good, especially the "Britishisms," but I suspect this is just good advertising... More early Asterix. The final Fulliautomatix begins to harass Cacophonix here.

Table 8.1. Asterix in Britain - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 1, Panel 7	O fortunatos... = O farmers excessively fortunate if only they recognized their blessings! (Virgil, Georgics ii.458) (alt.) 'O Fortuna' from 'Fortuna imperatrix mundi' the well known orchestral work by Carl Orff's 'Carmina Burana'.
Page 3, Panel 10	Oxbridge - Oxford and Cambridge, the two universities famous for their boat race.
Page 5, Panel 5	"A Garden is a lovesome thing, god wot!" - The first line of a famous 19th century poem by Thomas Edward Brown called "My Garden".
Page 5, Panel 6	Note the souvenirs on Asterix's shelf

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 7, Panel 5-6	"Smaller than the garden of my uncle, but larger than the pen of my aunt" - From the high-school English as taught in a popular English method of instruction in France. The French edition uses "the helmet of my nephew" for "the pen of my aunt". The book in French is full of odd-sounding literal translations of English phrases like "I say", "that's a bit of luck", "all that sort of thing", "goodness gracious", "I beg your pardon"; the English edition conveys the effect by overdoing the Bertie Wooster-ish talk.
Page 10, Panel 6	Alea jacta est = the die is cast (Julius Caesar)
Page 10, Panel 9	The Channel Tunnel or Chunnel.
Page 11, Panel 9	"In Rome do as Romans do" = St Augustine of Hippo was used to eating on Saturdays, but in Rome was obliged to fast on this day. When he mentioned this, St Ambrose replied "When I am in Milan I eat on Saturday; when I am in Rome I fast on Saturday." Robert Burton, c. 1600 restated this phrase in "Democritus to the reader" (Pt. 3 Sec. 4 Memb. 2 Sub-sec. 1), and it was also mentioned more famously by Miguel Cervantes in "Don Quixote" (Ch. 71)
Page 14, Panel 1	Does this refer to to the St. Andrews (even though it is further north) golf course???
Page 15, Panel 10	The Beatles. It must be said that George Harrison looks strange.
Page 20, Panel 6	Uderzo momentarily forgets that the English drive on the left side of the road. He got it right in Page 13, Panel 4.
Page 20, Panel 8	"London Bridge is falling down" - traditional children's song.
Page 21, Panel 4	The statue that Asterix and Obelix walk by is a take off of a famous statue called 'Diana on the Hunt'. Except, in this version, Diana is big and crushing the stag. This might explain Obelix's affectionate gaze at her.
	
"Diana crushing the Stag" by Uderzo	

Page, Panel	Comment
	 <p data-bbox="440 1619 662 1650">"Diana on the Hunt"</p>
Page 22, Panel 7	"Little Brown Jug" — a well known drinking song written by Joseph A. Winner (1837-1918).
Page 25, Panel 8	The present-day Tower of London, a popular tourist attraction, was built on the site of an old Roman fort.
Page 28, Panel 6	Park Lane is a famous high-class residential area.
Page 28, Panel 9	The UK has many housing areas featuring identical dwellings (mind you, so do many coun-

Page, Panel	Comment
	tries).
Page 32, Panel 1	"Drink to me only with thine eyes" - Ben Jonson, "The Forest. To Celia", c. 1600.
Page 32, Panel 3	Rugby
Page 32, Panel 8	Mufti: plain clothes
Page 33, Panel 1-2	A Caricature of a "British Bobby" (policeman), complete with swinging truncheon.
Page 33, Panel 5	Scottish bagpipes
Page 33, Panel 6-7	Sacred goose and hen???
Page 40, Panel 3	"that's not cricket" = not fair play; a common expression (also an anachronism, given that cricket wasn't developed until the 16th century)
Page 44, Panel 6	Fluctuat nec mergitur = It is swayed by the waves but does not sink. Motto of city of Paris.

Table 8.2. Asterix in Britain - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Cassivellaunos	Cassivellaunos: historical, fought Julius Caesar in 54 BC
Mykingdomforanos	Bang-on Cockney for "My Kingdom for an 'Os" ie., My Kingdom for a Horse, the cockney dutifully leaving off the 'H' sound and consequently having to use 'an' before a vowel instead of 'a' before an 'h'. "A horse, a horse, my kingdom for a HORSE!" - Richard III (Shakespeare). (alt.) "my kingdom for a nose". Interestingly, the British chief is the only character in the entire book with a small nose. In fact, compared to the nose sizes of every other character (Gauls, Brits, and Romans) his nose is so small that it almost looks like he doesn't have a nose at all."
Anticlimax	Anticlimax: a drop after a peak (climax). Note that Anticlimax, a member of the tribe of Oxbridgienses, has extraordinary rowing skills.
O'veroptimistix	Over optimistic: too favorable in prediction
McAnix	Mechanics
Tullius Stratocumulus	Tullius is a Roman name, Stratocumulus: a type of storm cloud.
Encyclopaedicus Britannicus	Encyclopedia Britannica: extremely comprehensive reference encyclopedia
Dipsomaniax	Dipsomaniac: Drinks too much
Haystax	Hay stack
Anthrax	Anthrax: virulent livestock disease
Tintax	Tin tacks
Surtax	Surtax: additional tax

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Boadicea	Boadicea was a queen of the Iceni in Britain who led a futile revolt against the Romans in 61 AD.
Camulodonum	Modern city of Colchester, England
Cantium	Kent
Durovernum	Canterbury
Hiphiphurax	Hip hip hurray

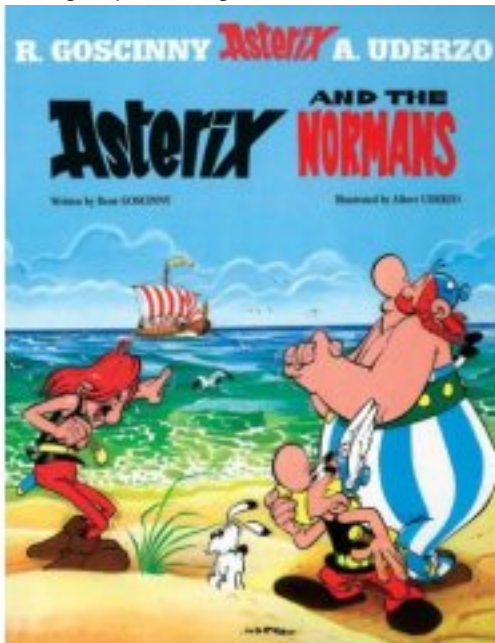
Chapter 9. Asterix and the Normans

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

The fearless Norman raiders descend upon Gaul to learn the meaning of fear. They capture Vitalstatistix's timid visiting nephew to get him to "teach" them, and it is up to Asterix & Obelix to sort them out...



Near the end of the early period. Drawing is nearly up to later standards. Fulliautomatix settles into his role of Cacophonix bashing, though he isn't named yet. Lots of names in this one. This introduces that Dogmatix hates when trees are hurt.

Historical Note. Vikings, or Normands, raided and pillaged France quite a lot during early middle-age. With their flat boats, they could sail upstream on the Seine, and threaten Paris. So, king Charles le Simple made an arrangement: he gave a duchy to their leader Rollon, and he would stop wrecking havoc. They were given a land called afterwards Normandy, which is a very peaceful part of France nowadays.

In this adventure, the Vikings sometimes behave like modern-day Normands : drinking calvados, adding cream in many dishes are characteristic of contemporary Normandy. But these Normands were not content forever with Normandy: Guillaume (William) sailed out to become king of England (1066).

Table 9.1. Asterix and the Normans - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 2, Panel 5	Milan, Italy is the home of Italian sports car maker Ferrari. The chariot is also red, like most Ferraris.
Page 3, Panel 7	Catacombs: Subterranean cemeteries and tunnels. Paris has extensive catacombs.
Page 3, Panel 9	The Rolling Stones, of course
Page 6, Panel 3	Apple brandy = Calvados, a brandy made from apples. It seems the alcohol content can reach 40% and it is matured in oak casks for an average of six years. Calvados is often fondly referred to as 'Calva', which, ironically, is Latin for "skull". Is the Normans drinking Calva from skulls (Lt. Calva) an intentional pun ???
Page 4, Panel 11	Palace of Varietix: The Palace of Varieties, a music hall in London, now defunct. In the French this is Olympiacatrix. The Olympia is a famous concert place, and Cocatrix is the owner.
Page 17, Panel 4	The Battle of Hastings, 1066 AD, the decisive battle in the Norman conquest of England.
Page 21, Panel 9	Half-uncia: half-inch
Page 22, Panel 2	Consensus is a Roman
Page 25, Panel 11	Gaulish Leave = French Leave - a hasty or secret departure, especially the leaving of a place without having paid the debts. The French equivalent is "filer a l'anglaise" meaning "English leave".
Page 27, Panel 5	The Normans did quite a bit of raiding on the coast of France later.
Page 30, Panel 4	Sol lucet omnibus = the sun shines for everyone.
Page 31, Panel 8	This instrument is authentic!
Page 32, Panel 7	"This Old Man he played one" — an old nursery rhyme.
Page 38, Panel 6	"I Love a Lassie..." = A traditional Scottish song by Sir Harry Lauder & Gerald Grafton
Page 38, Panel 8	"Get with it! I'm real gone..." = What song is this???
Page 39, Panel 1	Horologium: clock. 'Rock around the Clock' by Bill Haley and the Comets; 'I Like to be in America' by Bernstein in West Side Story.
Page 41, Panel 4	Sic transit gloria = And so the glory passes (said at the coronation of a pope)

Table 9.2. Asterix and the Normans - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Postaldistrix	Postal districts: areas for mail delivery
Doublehelix	Double helix: a double intertwined spiral, the shape of DNA
Justforkix	Just for kicks
Olaf Timandahaf	Time and a half: overtime pay rate
Nescaf	Nescafe: an instant coffee mix, though the company makes instant teas too.
Psychopaf	Psychopath

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Epitaf	Epitaph: inscription on tombstone.
Cenotaf	Cenotaph: empty tomb honoring person whose body is elsewhere
Transportcaf	Transport cafe (Brits say "caf" instead of "cafe") - a greasy truckstop
Chiffchaf	Chiffchaff: Small brown and green European bird
Operatix	Operatic: like an opera
Acoustix	Acoustics: the sound of a place
Polyfonix	Polyfonics: multiple notes at once
Harmonix	Harmonics: higher frequency "echoes" of a base tone
Riffraf	Riffraff: the commoners
Fotograf	Photograph
Oleaginus	Oleaginous: oily, greasy
Caraf	Carafe: bottle for beverages
Telegraf	Telegraph
Polytechnix	Polytechnic: skilled in many arts. Also a name given to certain colleges, though now they call themselves universities.
Selfservix	Self service
Firsthaf	First half
Secondhaf	Second half
Autograf	Autograph
Toocleverbyhaf	Too clever by half

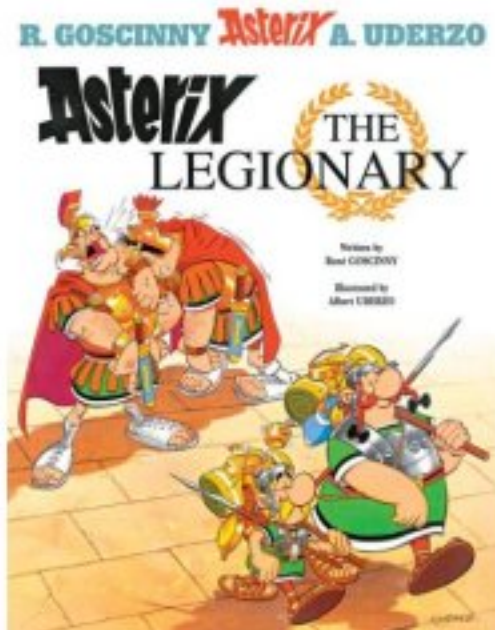
Chapter 10. Asterix the Legionary

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

When the fiancée of a village maiden is forced to join the Roman legion, Asterix & Obelix join up to rescue him. With their new fellow legionaries they travel to Africa where Caesar is busy fighting...


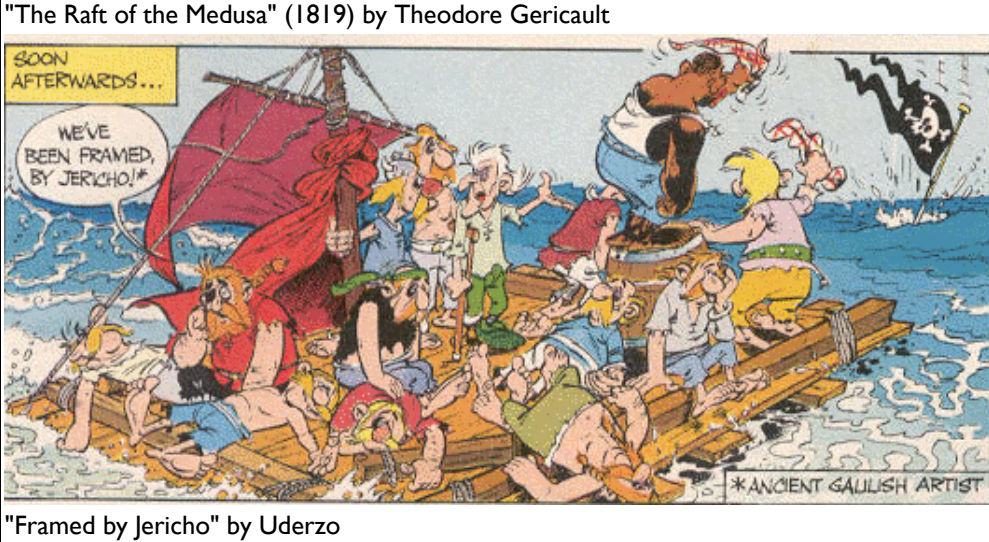


End of the early period. Although almost none of the other villagers are named yet. The drawing is nicely settled in, though, and they've all taken their final appearances. Tragicomix is a caricature of French actor Jean Marais (1913-1998).

Table 10.1. Asterix the Legionary - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 6, Panel 5	"Quomodo Vales?" = How are you?
Page 9, Panel 1-2	Historically accurate
Page 12, Panel 6	Parody of the British WW II propaganda song — "We're going to hand out the washing on the Siegfried Line"
Page 13, Panel 2	Timeo Danaos et dona Ferentes = I fear the Greeks even when they bring gifts (Virgil, Aeneid ii.48).
Page 14 Panel 7	Ptenisnet's hieroglyphics are hotel and restaurant rating symbols from the "Guides Michelin," a popular series of French travel guides.

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 17, Panel 9	Note how the translator translates the Centurion's swear words into Gothic.
Page 17, Panel 11	"An Englishman, an Irishman and a Scotsman..." = Common starting line of jokes. The Belgian has the haircut of Belgian character Tintin.
Page 20, Panel 9	The British have a reputation for some of the world's worst cuisine.
Page 21, Panel 10	Crystallized fruits = candied fruits.
Page 22, Panel 1	Maniple = 1/3 rd a cohort. Century = originally 100 men, but here just a further subdivision of maniple.
Page 24, Panel 6	Vis comica = The strength of the comical. It is a quote from an epigram from Caesar about the Latin poet Terentius.
Page 27, Panel 5	Gateau a la creme = A very rich cake with cream.
Page 28, Panel 2	Pluto is the god of Hell
Page 29, Panel 2	Thapsis/Thapsus = Older editions had this misspelled as Thapsis. The 2004 English edition has this corrected to "Thapsus". Thapsus was where Julius Caesar defeated Pompey and King Juba in 46 B.C.
Page 29, Panel 5-6	Black Fox / Wolf Emblem = ????. This is the same as the one in Page 36, Panel 5 of Asterix and the Great Crossing.
Page 29, Panel 6	The blue shield looks like the United Nations logo. But on Page 31, Panel 8 it has changed!
Page 30, Panel 1	"Never on Sunday!" - a popular movie and song from the 60's, starring Melina Mercouri. The French is 'Tu te des beaux dimanches, quand tu mettais la toge blanche' = "Do you remember the beautiful sundays, when you wore the white gown" (From the French song "C'est loin tout ça, Paroles de Georges Ulmer et Géo Koger, Musique de Georges Ulmer - 1946). Most translations seem to have something to do with Sunday in them. "Cruising down the river..." = "Cruising Down the River (on a Sunday Afternoon)" by Blue Baron Circa 1949
Page 30, Panel 3	This layout corresponds to 'The Raft of the Medusa' (1819) by the French artist Theodore Gericault. Hence the pirate saying "...framed by Jericho."

Page, Panel	Comment
	 <p>"The Raft of the Medusa" (1819) by Theodore Gericault</p>
	 <p>"Framed by Jericho" by Uderzo</p>
Page 31, Panel 8	Thapsus - port of Ras Dimas, in modern day Tunisia.
Page 32, Panel 1	Quo vadis = where are you going? The camp layout is authentic.
Page 33, Panel 1	Numidia = North Africa
Page 33, Panel 6	The guy to the left of Caesar is Charlier - a textwriter colleague of Goscinny.
Page 35, Panel 7	Dignus est intrare = He is worthy of entering. A watchmaker was accepted into the Watchmaker's Guild of Geneva (Founded 1601) with these words.
Page 37, Panel 5	Cry in the wilderness refers to John the Baptist (Mt 3:3; Mk 1:3; Lk 3:4; Jn 1:23)
Page 37, Panel 7	Cogito, ergo sum = I think, therefore I am (Rene Descartes).
Page 38, Panel 4	Alea jacta est = the die is cast (Julius Caesar)
Page 40, Panel 4	Phalanx = wide and deep formation, shields and spears overlapping; Quincunx = square

Page, Panel	Comment
	with one at each corner and one in the center; Tortoise = formation with shields locking over heads, for when besieging walls.
Page 40, Panel 6	(American) Cleopatra's Needle is either of two ancient Egyptian obelisks, one in New York City, the other in London today.

Table 10.2. Asterix the Legionary - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Panacea	Panacea: a cure-all
Soporifix	Soporific: something that induces sleep
Postaldistrix	Postal districts: areas for mail delivery.
Tragicomix	Tragicomic: something having both tragic and comical aspects.
Pompey	Historical person - Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus (106-48 BC), Roman general and triumvirate. Not pleased when Caesar dissolved the triumvirate to become supreme, civil war ensued.
Erroneus	Erroneous: something incorrect
Neveratalos	Never at a loss
Selectivemploy-mentax	Selective employment tax: British tax
Gastronomix	Gastronomics: the art of good eating
Hemispheric	Hemispheric: like half a sphere
Allegoric	Allegoric: an allegory is basically a parable
Ptenisnet	Tennis net
Nefarius Purpus	Nefarious purpose: a fiendish goal
Dubius Status	Dubious status
Juba, Afranius	Both historical
Scipio	<p>Quintus Caecilius Metellus Pius Scipio, Pompeius' father-in-law and one of Caesar's hardest enemies in the civil war. He was captured several times in Italy and Spain, but caesar always let him go.</p> <p>Could also be Q. Metellus Pius Scipio. He was defeated at the Battle of Thapsus when Caesar's men turned his (Scipio's) elephants against his own men. Caesar was unable to control his troops, and they slaughtered the Pompeians. Scipio committed suicide while fleeing to Hispania</p>
H2SO4 (Vitriolix)	Sulfuric acid: H ₂ SO ₄ is the chemical formula, it's occasionally known as vitriol
Garrulus Vinus	Garrulous: talkative about unimportant things, Vinus: wines.

Chapter 11. Asterix and the Chieftain's Shield

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

An ailing Vitalstatistix is sent to a health farm, near the scene of the Gauls triumph at Gergovia. When Asterix & Obelix annoy the local Romans, Caesar decides to hold his own triumph on a famous Gaulish shield. If only he can find it in the coal cellars...

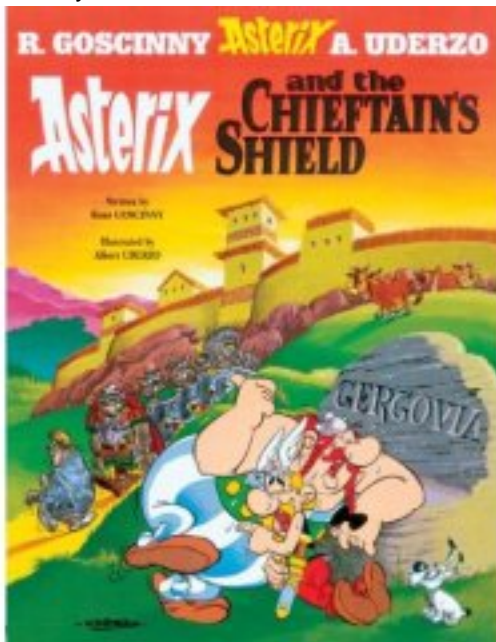


Table 11.1. Asterix and the Chieftain's Shield - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 1, Panel 1	See Vercingetorix entry under section Historical Dramatis Personae in the Characters Chapter and Alesia under Cities and Countries in the Geography Chapter.
Page 1, Panel 5	Ruber et Niget = Rouge et noir. A card betting game. Needed: two packs of 52 cards; a player gets 5 cards, and bets whether he/she will get more black or more red cards. If the first four cards are two red cards and two black cards, he/she can double his/her stake.
Page 1, Panel 6	Diem perdidit = I have lost a day (Emperor Titus 39-81 AD)
Page 1, Panel 7	Quo vadis = where are you going?
Page 1, Panel 8	O tempora! O mores! = O the times! O the morals! From Cicero's first oration against

Page, Panel	Comment
	Sergius Catilina.
Page 3, Panel 12	Aquae Calidae = hot water. Vichy, a town near Arvenia.
Page 5, Panel 6	"use a little wine for thy stomach's sake" = "Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities." (I Timothy 5:23)
Page 5, Panel 7	"Let good digestion wait on appetite" = "Now good digestion wait on appetite, and health on both!" (Shakespeare, Macbeth III.iv.38)
Page 8, Panel 2	Archimedes discovered the principle of a body displacing its equivalent mass in water
Page 11, Panel 3	Vade retro = get back. Audaces Fortuna iuvat = "Audentis Fortuna iuvat": fortune assists the bold (Virgil, Aeneid x.284)
Page 13, Panel 1	A reference to the British Value Added Tax (VAT)???
Page 13, Panel 3	Bangers = sausages to the British.
Page 13, Panel 9	Caesar was originally defeated by Vercingetorix at Gergovia
Page 14, Panel 1	Veni, vidi, vici: I came, I saw, I conquered (Julius Caesar)
Page 14, Panel 3	Ab imo pectore = From the bottom of the heart (literally: the chest). A phrase attributed to Julius Caesar
Page 14, Panel 6	Amongst the loot Caesar appears to have a pyramid, the Sphinx and a typically tacky sea-side souvenir from Britain. The Swiss are famous for their watches and clocks (including cuckoo clocks).
Page 14, Panel 8	Caesar's commentary on the Gallic Wars
Page 15, Panel 2	"Vade retrom, Satanus" = Latin version of Matthew 16:23 - "Get behind me, Satan"
Page 15, Panel 3	Puy de dome = mountain in Chaîne des Puys, a volcanic range in South Central France. The Puy de Dome is the youngest volcanic features and last erupted about 5760 BC
Page 22, Panel 8	Sol lucet omnibus = the sun shines on everyone (Petronius, Satyricon, 100). 'Hic! Haec! Hoc!' = This is in Latin. Hic is Masculine. Haec is Feminine, and Hoc is Neuter.
Page 25, Panel 3	This is equivalent to a modern-day "typing pool".
Page 26, Panel 2	Carpe diem: Seize the day
Page 27, Panel 8	Demobbed: retired from the army
Page 30, Panel 9	Bread & Circuses = Panem et circenses, from Juvenal, Satires x.80 60-130 AD)
Page 31, Panel 9	Roman roads featured mile stones. But why 'CXV' on the mile stone???
Page 38, Panel 1	NCO = Non-commissioned officer, i.e. legionary, decurion or centurion (modern-day would be private, corporal, sergeant).
Page 40, Panel 7	(biblical reference) "Let he who hath not sinned cast the first stone" (John 8:7)
Page 42, Panel 9	Bis repetita don't always placent = Things said twice don't always please. [Meaning:] It is unpleasant to have to repeat things. [The classical proverb is "bis repetita non placent" (Horace, Ars Poetica, 365).]

Table I I.2. Asterix and the Chieftain's Shield - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Diagnostix	Diagnostics: determining an illness
Noxius Vapus	Noxious vapors: poisonous gasses
Wineanspirix	Wine and spirits
Localpolitix	Local politics
Forinpolitix	Foreign politics
Thermostatix	Thermostats
Caius Pusillanimus	Pusillanimous: cowardly
Lucius Circumbendibus	Circumbendibus: a roundabout way
Anesthesia	Anesthesia: pain killer
Memoranda	Plural of Memorandum
Marcus Carniverus	Carniverus: meat eating
Therapeutix	Therapeutic: healing
Applejus	Apple juice
Prunejus	Prune juice
Carrotjus	Carrot juice
Tomatojus	Tomato juice
Titus Crapulus	Crapulous: sick from drinking

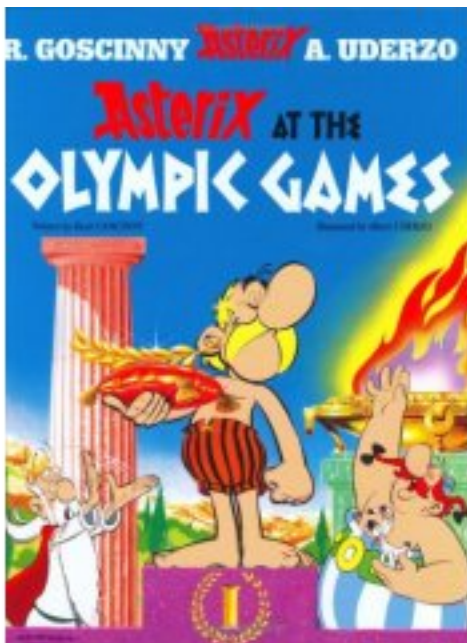
Chapter 12. Asterix at the Olympic Games

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
American Translations: Robert Steven Caron
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Abstract

Asterix & Obelix, accompanied by their fellow villagers, travel to Greece to compete at the famous Olympic Games. There they must overcome the might of the Roman and Greek athletes to come out on top...



Always one of my favorites. Gluteus Maximus may have my vote for best name ever. This one introduced Geriatrix as well. There are several places in the American translation where the translator leaves things from the English translation that make no sense given the rest of his translation, for instance where he calls Solar Plexus (American name) Gluteus Maximus (English name). Apparently he was using the English text as a check. This looks to be his first attempt, it's not as good as "Asterix the Legionary"

Table 12.1. Asterix at the Olympic Games - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 1, Panel 2	(American) Semper Fidelis: Always faithful, Marine corps motto. E pluribus unum: United we stand. (English) A reference to the famous Liverpool soccer anthem "You'll never walk alone" ???

Asterix at the Olympic Games

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 1, Panel 2	(American) A plebe belongs to the lowest Roman social class
Page 5, Panel 4	All-in wrestling = A combat event that was part of the ancient Olympic games. A combination of wrestling and boxing.
Page 7, Panel 6	Hecatombeon = The month when the Olympic games were held. The period between July 16 and August 13.
Page 11, Panel 1	Et nunc, reges intelligite... erudimini qui judicatis terram = And now, kings, please understand... [or: understand the kings, depending on whom the speaker is addressing] Learn [literally: be taught], you who judge the earth.
Page 17, Panel 6	"When Father Papered..." = A parody of "When Father Papered the Parlour" by R.R. Weston
Page 18, Panel 7	Obolos = Ancient unit of money. 1 drachme = 6 oboles.
Page 19, Panel 5	Acropolis = From the Greek word "Acropole" meaning "high city". The Acropolis was the fortified center of Greek city-states. Athens is the best known Acropole.
Page 22, panel 7	(English) In some countries one can return used bottles for a small refund of money.
Page 22, panel 8	(English) "that delicious veal" = see Asterix and the Banquet
Page 23, panel 7	(English) Is Geriatrix 93??
Page 24, panel 5	Heracles was the Greek name for the Roman demi-god Hercules.
Page 25, Panel 10	The caption on the left says GOSCINNY and the one on the right says UDERZO, and that's them in the drawings. The upper carvings say DESPOTES and TYRANNOS, which mean "despot" and "tyrant"
Page 27, Panel 3	"There is a Taberna..." = Reference to popular British song "There is a Tavern in town" by F. J. Adams circa 1891.
Page 27, Panel 4	"A-Roming..." = An English folk song - "A-roaming, a-roaming, 'cause roaming's been my ruin, I'll go no more a-rowing with you, fair maid."
Page 30, Panel 8	(English) Socci = Soccer? (alt.) Socus = plowshare. Given the context it probably means "pull your socks up" (Glen Koorey). Socci are light shoes in use among the Greeks (Matt Badley)
Page 30, Panel 10	Discoboli: discus throwers
Page 31, Panel 7	This is an anachronism. People who lived in BC did not know it and certainly did not reckon dates that way.
Page 34, Panel 7	The Colossus of Rhodes was an incredibly huge statue that straddled the entrance to their harbor. One of the seven wonders of the ancient world.
Page 36, Panel 9	Mens sana in corpore sano = sound mind in a sound body (Juvenal, 60-130 AD, Satires x.356)
Page 37, Panel 3	Hellanodikai = Organizers of the Olympic games. Between two and twelve in number.
Page 39, Panel 6	Quo vadis = "Where are you going?"
Page 40, Panel 8	Even the rooster is Greek.
Page 43, Panel 6	Quid = what? Quomodo = how?

Table 12.2. Asterix at the Olympic Games - Names in English Edition

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Gluteus Maxiumus	A large buttock muscle
Bilius	Bilious: related to the green bile secreted by the liver, or bad-tempered
Gaius Veriambitius	Very ambitious
Diabetes	Diabetes: any disease characterized by excessive urine discharge
Invinoveritas	In vino veritas: In wine is truth
Makalos	Make a loss: lose money on something
Kudos	Kudos: credit or praise
Phallintodiseus	Fall into disuse
Thermos	Thermos: an insulated bottle
Pugnatus	Pugnacious: eager and ready to fight
Saintpancras	Saint Pancras: a famous main-line British Rail terminus. Also a hospital.
Neuroses	Neuroses: mental problems
Philibuster	Filibuster: in the US Congress, a means of delaying by talking for hours or even days
Hellenes	Inhabitants of southern Thessalia. From the 6th century B.C. this name was used to refer to all the Greeks who, according to legend, descended from Hellen, son of Decalion.

Table 12.3. Asterix at the Olympic Games - Names in American Edition

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Solar Plexus	Solar plexus: the area of the belly just below the sternum
Doltus	Dolt: idiot
Vain Glorius	Vainglorius: boastful and proud
Panorama	Panorama: picture that encircles the viewers
Midas	Midas: mythical king, everything he touched turned to gold
Taxiperilos	Taxi perilous: dangerous taxi
Prometheus	Prometheus: mythical titan who gave fire to man
Clytemnestra	Clytemenstra: mythical wife of Agamemnon. She killed him with the help of her lover, then was killed by their son Orestes
Oedipus	Oedipus: mythical King- unknowingly killed his father and married his mother, put his eyes out
Invinoveritas	In vino veritas: In wine is truth

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Vexatius	Vexatious: irritating
Dallos	Dallas: US soap opera
Grossomodo	Combination of gross and Quasimodo (the hunchback of Notre Dame) (alt.) a vulgar (in the sense of 'of the people') Latin expression for roughly estimated, approximately.
Malapropos	Malapropos: something said that is not appropriate

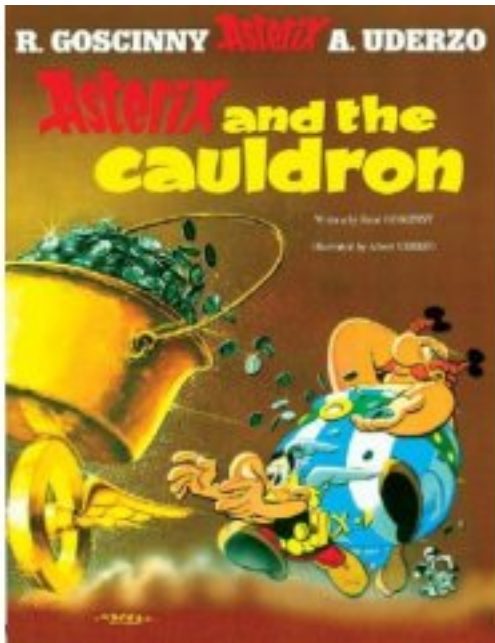
Chapter 13. Asterix and the Cauldron

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Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

Except for the tax collector, this one is pretty forgettable. The tax collector is Valery Giscard d'Estaing (the then minister of finance of France who later became the president).



This, Asterix and Son and Asterix and Caesar's Gift are the only three books where Asterix uses his ever-present sword. He is always carrying it but usually prefers to take some magic potion and fight with his fists. It's interesting to note, too, that though Asterix usually doesn't use his sword, the couple of times he does use it, he is shown to be a very good swordsman.

Table 13.1. Asterix and the Cauldron - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 9, Panel 2	Quo vadis = where are you going?
Page 10, Panel 1	Vae Victis = Woe to the conquered ones. See annotation for Page 1, Panel 10 in Asterix the Gaul
Page 11, Panel 8	Ubi solitudinem faciunt, pacem appellant = Where they make a wilderness and call it peace (Tacitus 56-120 AD, Agricola 42)
Page 13, Panel 4	Conkered = Conker - a game popular in England in which each player swings a horse chestnut thread on a string to try to break one held by his opponent; also refers to the chestnut itself.

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 20, Panel 8	Retiary = a gladiator with a net; Velite = a light armed infantryman; Numidian = from North Africa; Cestus = a gauntlet for boxers (from Caestus; not to be confused with cestus, which means girdle)
Page 22, Panel 3	Ave Caesar, morituri... = Hail Caesar, we who are about to die salute you. Said by gladiators in the circus before fighting.
Page 26 Panel 9	Goscinny and Uderzo sitting on the front row of the theatre
Page 29, Panel 8	Hippodrome = literally, "horse racetrack"
Page 30, Panel 3	Quadriage = Four horse chariot.
Page 31, Panel 9	Barclus Bank = Barclay's Bank
Page 37, Panel 8	Quid pro quo = something in return for something else
Page 44, Panel 13	For once, just for once, the pirates are happy.
Page ??, Panel ??	"But money has no smell" = "Pecunia non olet" by Vespasian meaning money doesn't stink. In order to fill depleted state funds, Vespasian introduced, among other things, a new tax on public lavatories. When his son Titus objected, Vespasian held a coin collected under the new tax law to Titus' nose and asked him if it smelled.

Table 13.2. Asterix and the Cauldron - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Chief Whosemor-alsarelastix	Chief whose morals are elastic or Chief whose morals are last-ix
Pigskidnix	Pigs kidneys
Antibiotix	Antibiotics: medicines for various infectious diseases
Laurensoivius	Laurence Olivier: famous actor
Alecguinus	Alec Guinness: famous actor
Confidenstrix	Confidence tricks: criminal activities which involve gaining the confidence of the victim
Crismus Bonus	Christmas Bonus.

Chapter 14. Asterix in Spain

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

When Caesar captures the troublesome son of a Spanish chieftain, he sends him to Gaul for safekeeping. Asterix & Obelix rescue him and help him return to his homeland ...



Historical Note. The more appropriate title should be 'Asterix in Hispania' and 'Asterix in Spain', as Spain (España) is the modern name of the country. Back in Asterix's time Hispania was a bunch of independent kingdoms. The kingdom of Spain did not exist as such till the 15th century under the catholic kings who unified all the independent kingdoms into one. For the Romans, the Iberian peninsula was known as Hispania. In the original French this book is, indeed, '*Asterix en Hispanie*' and not '*Asterix en Espagne*'.

Table 14.1. Asterix in Spain - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 1, Panel 1	17 th March, 45 BC = In his last victory, Julius Caesar defeats the Pompeian forces of Titus Labienus and Pompey the Younger in the Battle of Munda.
Page 1, Panel 2	Caesar's victory over the supporters of Pompey at Thapsus = The battle of Thapsus took place on February 6, 46 BC near Thapsus (modern Ras Dimas, Tunisia). The conservative republicans army, led by Marcus Porcius Cato, the younger and Quintus Caecilius Metellus Scipio clashed with the forces of Caesar, who eventually won the battle. With this victory,

Page, Panel	Comment
	<p>Caesar ended the resistance against his power in Africa and was one step closer to absolute power.</p> <p>Battle of Munda: took place on March 17, 45 BC in the plains of Munda, southern Spain. This was the last battle of Julius Caesar's civil war against the conservative republicans. After this victory, and the death of Titus Labienus and Gnaeus Pompeius (Pompey the Great's oldest son), Caesar was free to return to Rome and govern as dictator. Eventually, this led to the end of the Roman Republic.</p>
Page 1, Panel 3	X th Legion = The Tenth Legion was, for most of its history, an elite and honored unit. Like America's 82 nd and 101 st airborne divisions, the Tenth enjoyed a world-wide reputation for skill in battle. The Tenth earned its stripes, from recruitment and training to victory as the legion that usually occupied the position of honor on Caesar's right flank. The Legion helped Caesar pacify Gaul, crossed the Rubicon and fought a civil war, endured the assassinations of Pompey and Caesar, cast its lot with Antony at Actium, and finally captured the Zealot fortress at Masada. The Romans, it seems, were very skilled and very ruthless, and the Tenth Legion represented the pinnacle of their military art.
Page 1, Panel 4	Iberians = Of or relating to ancient Iberia in Transcaucasia or its peoples, languages, or cultures. The ancient country of Transcaucasia is roughly equivalent to the eastern part of present-day Georgia. Iberia was allied to Rome and later ruled by a Persian dynasty. It became a Byzantine province in the sixth century AD; Spanish also uses the exclamation point and question mark at the end of a sentence as we do and at the beginning, upside down.
Page 2, Panel 2	"To rest on your laurels" = to stop trying so hard having already achieved so much.
Page 2, Panel 3	Veni, vidi, vici: I came, I saw, I conquered (Julius Caesar)
Page 4, Panel 7	Hombre: Slang. A man; a fellow. [Spanish, from Old Spanish omne, from Latin hom, homin-.]
Page 11, Panel 2	Beati pauperes spiritu = Blessed are the poor in spirit. (Matt. 5:3, King James)
Page 13, Panel 2	Similar to "to see a man about a dog" which is Cockney for going to the toilet
Page 16, Panel 5	"I'm Dreaming of a White Solstice" = Pun on 'I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas'
Page 16, Panel 7	<p>"Wonderful wonderful Durovernum" = A reference to the Danny Kaye song "Wonderful Copenhagen".</p> <p>Durovernum: When Julius Caesar came on his second expedition in 54 BC the Roman VIIth Legion stormed the Celtic hillfort at Bigbury. Canterbury became a permanent settlement and center of trade with the Celtic name of Durwhern. The Romans returned in AD 43, at the time of Emperor Claudius and gave the name of Durovernum Cantiacorum to the present Canterbury. (Durovernum after the Celtic name of Durwhern and Cantiacorum meaning of the Cantiaci or Kentish people).</p>
Page 16, Panel 8	"Rock-a-bye, Pepe, ..." = A pun on the traditional lullaby 'Rockaby, baby'
Page 17, Panel 8	Hispalis : Seville. The city was both a river port and bridge between the Atlantic Ocean and the hinterland of Andalusia. Also Seville was the crossroads between the North-East and West of the Iberian Peninsula. In the beginnings of the first millennium B.C. the area of Seville became the great market place of the Guadalquivir Valley. The original Seville was

Page, Panel	Comment
	born where the river became no longer navigable for seagoing ships. Archaeological excavations confirm that the first permanent settlements date back to the 9th century.
Page 19, Panel 9	Salisbury Plain is Stonehenge
Page 24, Panel 8	Chicken in the basket = popular dish
Page 24, Panel 9	Vaccaeians = a tribe in NE Spain
Page 26, Panel 7	Pompaelo / Pamplona: A city of northern Spain east-southeast of Bilbao, an ancient Basque city located on a hill overlooking the Arga River that permitted it to dominate the surrounding valley, caused it to be populated from very remote times. Historians believe that this primitive nucleus could have been used as a stopover by the Celts, and there is no question that in the winter of 74-75 B.C., the area served as a camp for the Roman general Pompeyo. He is considered to be the founder of "Pompaelo" (Pamplona). It was captured by the Visigoths, Franks, and Moors and became the capital of the kingdom of Navarre (824-1512). The annual running of the bulls during the feast of San Fermin was celebrated in Ernest Hemingway's 'The Sun Also Rises' (1926).
Page 28, Panel 4	Don Quixote and Sancho Panza
Page 29, Panel 2	Replete: stuffed, gorged
Page 34, Panel 5 ???	Thermopylae Pass = Site of famous battle between the Greek Alliance and the Persians circa 480 BCE; Milk of Magnesia = Magnesium hydroxide; Cos Lettuce = A type of lettuce; Salamis = A type of sausage.
Page 35, Panel 3	Cauca / Coca: The village of Coca is located at the North-West of the province of Segovia, 48 Km from the city of Segovia, in the region known as Tierra de Pinares (Pine tree land). It is 140 Km away from Madrid, and 60 Km from Valladolid. Excavations started in a place known as Los Azafranales (Saffron fields) at the watershed of the Voltoya and Eresma rivers mapped the population sequence (Celtiberian, Roman and Late Antiquity) thanks to the evidence obtained: Visigothic slate pieces, terra sigillata vases, Celtiberian cups, bowls, jugs, a dolium and some decorated vases that belong to the Rauda type.
Page 35, Panel 4	Segovia: A city of central Spain north-northwest of Madrid. An important Roman town, it was held sporadically by the Moors from 714 to 1079. The Roman aqueduct of Segovia, probably built c. A.D. 50, is remarkably well preserved.
Page 35, Panel 5	Helmantica / Salamanca: A city of west-central Spain west-northwest of Madrid. Conquered by Hannibal in 220 B.C., it was captured by Moors in the 8th century A.D. and held by them until the late 11th century.
Page 35, Panel 6	Corduba / Cordoba: Córdoba flourished as a major Roman settlement from the 1st century BC to the 5th century AD and subsequently was captured first by the Visigoths (572) and then by the Moors (711). In 756, Abd-ar-Rahman I, a member of the Umayyad family, made Córdoba the capital of Moorish Spain, and for the next 250 years the city was one of the world's great commercial and intellectual centers. In 929 Abd-ar-Rahman III established the caliphate of Córdoba. The city declined after the early 11th century as Muslim rule in Spain disintegrated, but it remained a center of literature and scholarship. In 1236 the city was captured and became part of Spain. It was captured by France during the Napoleonic Wars (1799-1815).
Page 37, Panel 1	Vandalusia: Andaluca was settled in the 5th century BC by the Carthaginians and was later

Page, Panel	Comment
	<p>conquered by the Roman Empire. In the 5th century AD the country was overrun by the Vandals, from whom the region took the name Vandalusia (later corrupted into Andaluca). The Vandals were succeeded by the Visigoths, who ruled until the Arab invasion of 711, after which Andaluca became the center of civilization for the Saracens and Moors. From 1516 the history of Andaluca merges with that of the united kingdom of Spain.</p> <p>The resemblance of the hoods to those used by the Ku Klux Klan (a historical white-supremacist group in the US) is coincidental. The hoods here depicted predate the Klan considerably. These hoods are traditionally used in Spain during Christian processions; people who want to make a penance carry the Saints statues litter, or walk bare-foot. They wear hoods so as not to be recognized (to avoid gossips), and they are pointy so that all men appear to have the same size, to further prevent onlookers to try and recognize them.</p>
Page 37, Panel 5	Amontillado el amoroso = Amontillado = fine wine, Amoronos = Loving. Hence - Loving fine wine.
Page 40, Panel 4	Panem et circenses = bread and circuses (Juvenal, Satires x.80 60-130AD)
Page 40, Panel 8	The person conducting the circus music is a caricature of the composer and conductor Gerard Calvi.
Page 41, Panel 4	Aurochs = Extinct European Ox
Page 44, Panel 5	"A fish, a fish, my kingdom for a fish" = a parody of "A horse, a horse, my kingdom for a horse" (Richard III, Shakespeare)

Table I4.2. Asterix in Spain - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Huevos Y Bacon	Eggs and bacon
Spurius Brontosaurus	Spurious: irrelevant, trivial; Brontosaurus: large dinosaur, now called Apatosaurus
Raucus Hallelujachorus	Raucous: loud; Hallelujah chorus: chorus found often in church hymns which consists of the word hallelujah repeated. More likely - The world famous "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's oratorio "Messiah" (1742)
Pericles	Historical. An Athenian general and statesman
Nodepositon el Soda-siphon	No deposit on soda bottle
Oloroso el Fiasco	Oloroso: smelly; fiasco: total disaster
Obsequius	Obsequious: fawning, overly submissive
Begonia	Begonia: a type of flower

Chapter 15. Asterix and the Roman Agent

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

Julius Caesar tries psychological warfare to defeat the little Gaulish village and sends expert trouble-maker Tortuous Convolvulus to set friend against friend and almost succeeds: see jealousy spread as the Gauls become suspicious of each other! Can Asterix and Obelix, with the expert aid of the druid Getafix, outwit the weedy but wily Convolvulus and get the village back to normal?

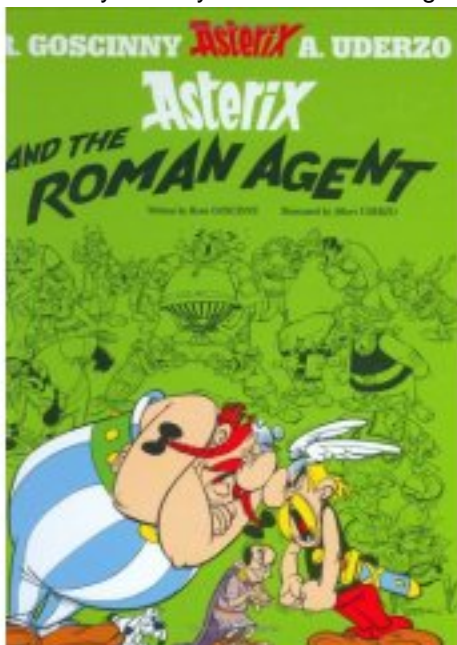


Table 15.1. Asterix and the Roman Agent - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 1, Panel 4	Pleb = member of the lowest class in Roman society; Plebiscite = a popular vote on some matter
Page 1, Panel 5	Mon repos: (French) My rest; Mea Requies: My rest. A popular name for houses in the British countryside.
Page 2, Panel 4	'Et tu Brute' = See Asterix the Gladiator. Strangely, in the French version Caesar says "Tu quoque, fili" meaning "You too, my son". Perhaps because 'Et Tu Brute' was the Anglo Saxon Shakespeare's version.

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 3, Panel 4	I over VIII = "One over eight". Meaning drunk
Page 5, Panel 7	Coventry: banishment. Used by the Cavaliers in the 17 th century since the town was strongly Roundhead allied.
Page 7, Panel 4	Auri sacra fames = cursed craving for gold! (Virgil, Aeneid iii.6)
Page 9, Panel 1	The centurion is the Italian born French actor Lino Ventura (1919-87). He acted in many gangster movies.
Page 26, Panel 8	Quid? = What?
Page 30, Panel 6	Munda = town in Spain where Caesar won a victory over the sons of Pompey in 45 BC

Table 15.2. Asterix and the Roman Agent - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Stradivarius	Stradivarius: very famous maker of violins
Brutus	Historical: Marcus Junius Brutus, adopted son of Julius Caesar and one of the conspirators who murdered him, hence "Et tu, Brute?"
Tortuous Convulvulus	Tortuous = twisted; convulvulus = twining plants, funnel-shaped flowers and triangular leaves, blindweed. Convuluted = twisted.
Pompey	Historical person - Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus (106-48 BC), Roman general and triumvirate. Not pleased when Caesar dissolved the triumvirate to become supreme, civil war ensued.
Aberdeen Angus	Aberdeen Angus: a breed of black, hornless cattle from Scotland, raised for beef (Black Angus)
Giantortus	Giant tortoise
Felix Platypus	Platypus: duckbill, a strange monotreme. A caricature of French actor Lino Ventura (1919-1987).
Magnumopus	Magnum opus: someone's greatest work
Homunculus	Homunculus: little man, dwarf

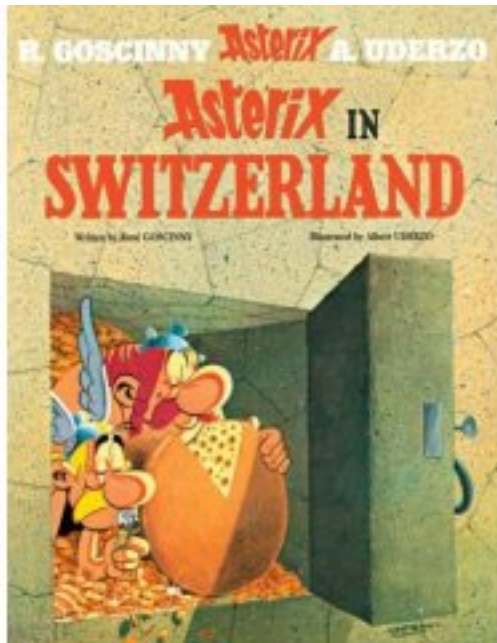
Chapter 16. Asterix in Switzerland

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

A Roman tax inspector is poisoned by a greedy Roman governor, and only Getafix can save him. Asterix & Obelix travel to Switzerland in search of a vital ingredient, with the governor's men hot in pursuit...



Actually, Helvetia is not fully Switzerland, and Geneva isn't all of Switzerland, but... Probably translated this way for ease of recognition. The Swiss are famous for all the things they're lampooned for here... melted cheese, banking, watches, neutrality, and cleanliness.

Historical Note. The whole story about the bridge is that when Caesar attacked the Helvetes, they burned down their homes and the bridge and went to fight Caesar. The bridge was one of the rare ones above the Rhone river, and thus a strategical one. Caesar rebuilt it when he eventually pounded the Helvetes to submission.

Table 16.1. Asterix in Switzerland - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 2, Panel 8	Half pint of mild and bitter: British beer.
Page 3, Panel 6	Tripe = part of the stomach, aurochs = a large, almost extinct European bison.
Page 7, Panel 1	Looks similar to a scene from Fellini's Satyricon.
Page 8, Panel 4	Valetudinarium = place of poor health

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 8, Panel 7	Air in the arteries is a quick way to kill someone
Page 8, Panel 8	Aesculapius = god of medicine; staff with snake.
Page 14, Panel 3	Il Milia Passum = Two miles to go
Page 14, Panel 5	Servitutes = Servitude
Page 15, Panel 1	Chariotel = like motel
Page 16, Panel 1	In the original, this is a little man with a horned helmet, the emblem of a garage company. The company sued, and the guy has been redrawn as the Michelin Man.
Page 19, Panel 10	Maior e longinquo reverentia = Greater is the respect [that comes] from a long time ago.
Page 20, Panel 9	Leman Lake is the name of Lake Geneva in French: Lac Lemman.
Page 23, Panel 4	Sicambri = A Gaulish tribe, which later joined the Franks; Aedue = Gauls from between the Loire and Saone rivers; Triboci = Gauls on the left bank of Rhine; Sequani = Gauls in modern Burgundy
Page 28, Panel 7	Curriculum Vitae = running of life. Life story, biography.
Page 30, Panel 7	This building must be the Palais des Nations. One of the two UN headquarters. Here, the building has a definitively Roman style the actual hasn't.
Page 32, Panel 1	Carduchi = Corduene, also known as Cordyene, Cardyene and Gordyene, was a province of the Roman Empire located in the northern mesopotamia.
Page 32, Panel 5	Nunc est bibendum = now for drinks (Horace, Odes I.xxxvii.I)
Page 35, Panel 11	William Tell, in case anyone missed it.
Page 38, Panel 3	Elephants refer to Hannibal's crossing of the Alps.
Page 39, Panel 3	The Red Cross was formed in Switzerland

Table 16.2. Asterix in Switzerland - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Varius Flavus	Various flavors
Impresario Fellinus	Impresario: manager of theater/orchestra/opera company. Fellinus is the famous Fredrico Fellini.
Caius Eucalyptus	Eucalyptus: tall Australian evergreen trees.
Geometrix	Geometric
Vexatius Sinusitus	Vexatious: irritating; Sinusitus: inflamed sinuses
Curius Odus	Curious odors
Malodorus Caseus	Malodorous caseous: smelly and cheeselike.
Petitsuix	Petit Suisse (Little Swiss): a French version of blancmange.
Zurix	Zurich: a Swiss city famous for banking

Chapter 17. The Mansion of the Gods

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

Caesar decides to destroy the villagers' forests to make way for an extravagant new city. It is up to the Gauls to frustrate the attempts to drive them out ...

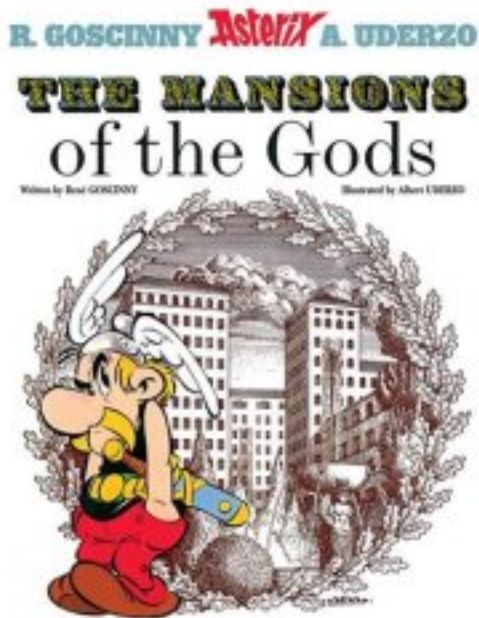


Table 17.1. The Mansion of the Gods - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 10, Panel 2	Beati pauperes spiritu = Blessed are the poor in spirit. (Matt. 5:3, King James)
Page 12, Panel 2	Gnothe Seauton = Gnothi se auton = know thyself. Appears in Hamlet, Act I. Motto on the temple of Appolo in Delphi. Attributed to Thales, Chilo and others.
Page 24, Panel 3	Veni, vidi, vici = I came, I saw, I conquered (Julius Caesar)
Page 25, Panel 1	Jentaculum = Breakfast
Page 26, Panel 1	Xlises = elevenses, British late morning tea.; Cenaculum = upper room (eating room)
Page 37, Panel 5	"The Twelve Days of Christmas". Xmas (purposely) occurs near the winter Solstice.
Page 37, Panel 6	Quousque tandem = To what point at last [O Cataline, wilt thou abuse our patience!] (from Cicero's First Catalinarian)
Page 40, Panel 2	Atrium = lobby; triclinium = dining room with couch

Table 17.2. The Mansion of the Gods - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Sqauroonthehypotenuse	Square on the hypotenuse: the hypotenuse is the long diagonal line in a triangle with a 90 degree right angle. The square of the lengths of the two other lines is the length of the hypotenuse squared (Pythagoras's Theorem). Or, "square on" in construction means that the expected right angle is indeed right.
Somniferus	Somniferous: sleep inducing
Flaturtha	Flaturtha: gas in the stomach or intestines. Alternately, "flat earther."
Showbisinus	Show business. Based on French TV presentator Guy Lux.

Chapter 18. Asterix and the Laurel Wreath

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Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract


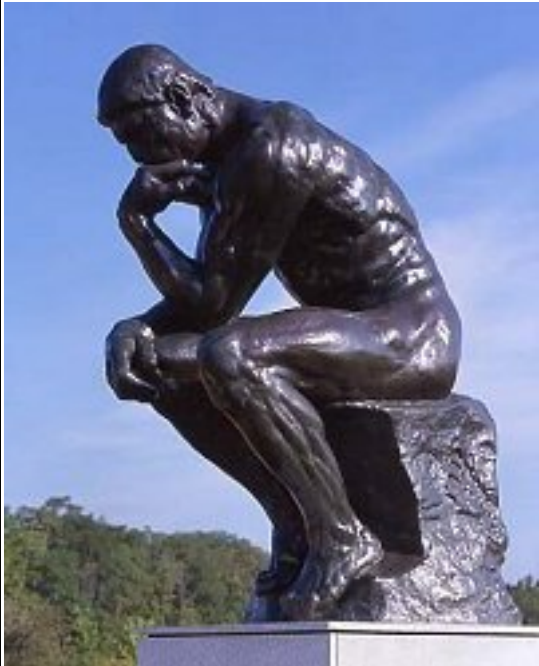
A drunken Vitalstatistix bets his brother-in-law that he can provide a stew seasoned with Caesar's laurel wreath. It is up to Asterix & Obelix to travel to Rome and come up with the goods ...



The backgrounds look a bit strange on this one for some reason, and the writing in the word balloons is thinner and more slanted. Perhaps Uderzo was trying a thinner pen. If so, it doesn't survive into the next book. And it may be just a printing error. Harry Fluks says it's not in his Dutch printing.

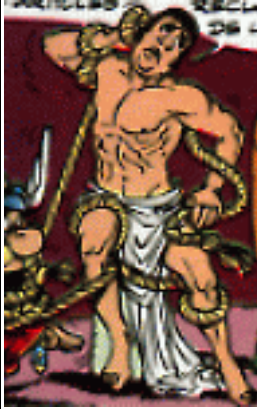
Table 18.1. Asterix and the Laurel Wreath - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 1, Panel 2	Fructarii = fruit sellers; Peponarii = melon merchant; Olitores = cultivators of herbs and vegetables; Piscatores = fishermen; Vinarii = vintners; Silignarii = wheat flour millers ???; Pastillai = pastry chef
Page 1, Panel 4	Sicambres: See annotations for Page 23, Panel 4 in Asterix in Switzerland
Page 3, Panel 7	See Asterix and Cleopatra
Page 4, Panel 8	"When a man is tired of Lutetia, he is tired of life." Samuel Johnson, 1777: "When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life; for there is in London all that life can afford."

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 5, Panel 1	cena = lunch in early Roman times or dinner in Classical Roman times
Page 8, Panel 9	Taberna Bibulus = pub / tavern (taberna = store, bibulus = drink)
Page 9, Panel 8	Why doesn't this guy look very Greek (like in 'Olympic Games')??? Perhaps this is a real person???
Page 10 Panel 3	(slave market). This is actually the first time a naked breast (and nipple?) appears in an Asterix album. Look closely at the Numidian and the Greek female slaves at middle right; A "Parthian shot" (often referred to as a parting shot) comes from the Parthians of ancient Iran, whose horsemen in battle feigned retreat and then fired their arrows back at the enemy; Hoplites = heavily armed infantryman of Greece
Page 12, Panel 1	<p>The statues are Rodin's 'The Thinker', Polydoros and Athanodoros' 'The Lakoon' and Myron's 'The Discus Thrower' respectively.</p>  <p>"The Thinker" by Uderzo</p>  <p>"The Thinker" by Auguste Rodin</p>

Page, Panel



Comment



"The Laocöon" by Uderzo



"The Laocöon" by Polydorus and Athanodoros

Page, Panel	Comment
	 <p data-bbox="440 653 808 682">"The Discus Thrower" by Uderzo</p>  <p data-bbox="440 1589 797 1619">"The Discus Thrower" by Myron</p>
Page 14, Panel 5	Domus = house
Page 14, Panel 6	Cubiculum = sleeping area
Page 18, Panel 1	Triclinium: dining room with couches
Page 22, Panel 1	The views of the villa here are authentic
Page 24, Panel 5	Quo vadis = where are you going?
Page 24, Panel 8	Vadere quo = To go where?

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 26, Panel 4	Gloria victis = Glory to the vanquished; Veritas odium parit = Part of the Latin phrase "Obsequium amicos, veritas odium parit" (Terence, Andria L.68) meaning "Obsequiousness begets friends, truth hatred"
Page 29, Panel 5	Delenda (est) Carthago = Carthage must be destroyed. Cato used it as the closing line in every speech he made to the Roman Senate till the Third Punic War when Carthage was destroyed.
Page 33, Panel 3	Tarpeian rock = a cliff on Capitoline Hill in Rome from which traitors were thrown to their death.
Page 36, Panel 7	Caricature of French ringmaster Jean Richard's circus act.
Page 37, Panel 5	Sicarii, effractores, raptores = Assassins, burglars (literally, "fracture") and street robbers. Sebaciaria = night watchmen. (from the subtitles in Dutch).
Page 38, Panel 3	urbs = suburbs
Page 39, Panel 2	"Dido, dido, give me your answer do..." = "Bicycle built for two..."; "There's an old Mola by the Flumen ..." = Probably based on the folk song Nellie Dean; "The Bells of Hades go Ting-a-ling-a" = Reference to popular WWI song "The Bells of Hell" which was also popularized in the movie 'Oh! What a Lovely War'; "hic," "haec," and "hoc," = The word "this" in male, female and neuter forms respectively in Latin.
Page 40, Panel 9	Bar Aurigarum = Bar of Charioteers

Table 18.2. Asterix and the Laurel Wreath - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Homeopathix	Homeopathy: "medical" theory of giving the patient very small amounts of drugs which in large doses would produce similar symptoms to the disease
Tapioca	A bland pudding
Seminola	A British school lunch dessert: "a really disgusting cream sludge, with the texture of sand"
Kumakros	Come across
Typhus	Typhus: nasty infections disease
Fibula	Thin outer leg bone between knee and ankle
Tibia	Thicker inner leg bone between knee and ankle
Metatarsus	The five bones in the foot between ankle and toes
Osseus Humerus	Osseus: bone-like; humerus: bone in arm from shoulder to elbow
Autodidax	Autodidact: someone self-taught
Goldendelicus	Golden delicious: type of green-yellow apple
Locus Classicus	Locus classicus: a passage often cited as authoritative or illustrative - classical reference
Titus Nisprius	Nisprius: court in which a cause of action is originally heard

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Cato	Historical: Cato the Elder (the Censor) 234-149 BC, Roman statesman
Habeuscorpus	Habeus corpus: safeguards against illegal detention or imprisonment. Literally means "have the body".

Chapter 19. Asterix and the Soothsayer

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

A wandering soothsayer arrives in the village and creates havoc amongst the gullible villagers. When the Romans capture him they try to enlist his help in defeating the Gauls. Only a sceptically Asterix can save the day...

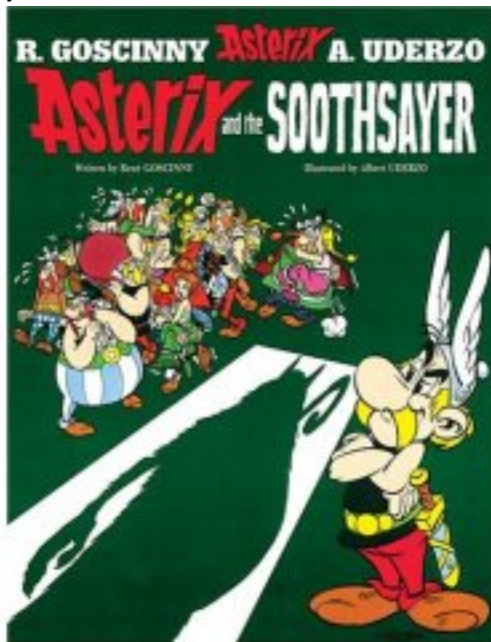


Table 19.1. Asterix and the Soothsayer - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 1, Panel 2	See 'Forest of Carnutes' in Geography
Page 5, Panel 7	Brutus killed Caesar with a dagger
Page 6, Panel 10	A caricature of Rembrandt's "The Anatomy Lesson of Dr Nicholas Tulp"



Page, Panel	Comment
	<p data-bbox="441 245 1424 304">SOON AFTERWARDS...</p>  <p data-bbox="441 739 1424 772">"The Anatomy Lesson of the Soothsayer" by Uderzo</p>  <p data-bbox="441 1274 1424 1318">"The Anatomy Lesson of Dr. Nicholas Tulp" by Rembrandt</p>
Page 7, Panel 10 and Page 8, Panel 5	Either Geriatrix has a twin brother or has been drawn twice in error. See the bottom right of the pile of Gauls pounding each other.
Page 10, Panel 11	Homeopathix = see Asterix and the Laurel Wreath
Page 29, Panel 4	"Oh I do like to be beside the seaside..."
Page 33, Panel 1	This looks like a group posing for a photo. A famous photograph / painting ???
Page 40, Panel 2	Romulus and Remus are the legendary founders of Rome, raised by a she-wolf

Table 19.2. Asterix and the Soothsayer - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Intelligensia (MI5)	MI5 is a British intelligence agency concerned with state security

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Mania	Mania: a madness
Prolix	Prolix: long-winded, wordy
Myopia	Myopia: literal shortsightedness
Voluptuous Arterio-sclerosis	Voluptuous: more than ample; arteriosclerosis:hardening of the artieries
Statistix	Statstics
Bulbus Crocus	Bulbous crocus: a flower of the iris family in its bolbous root state.

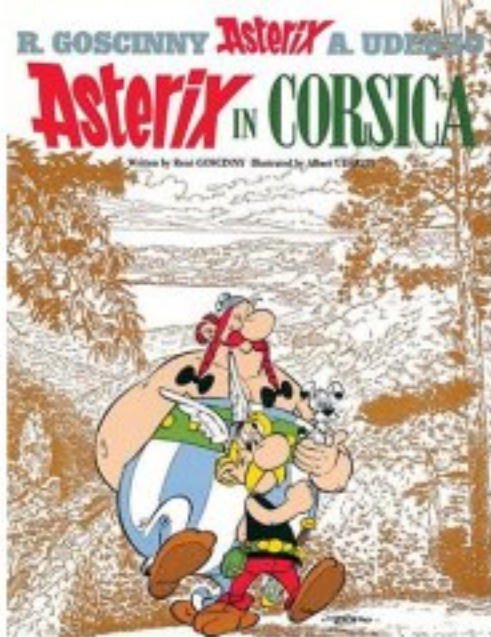
Chapter 20. Asterix in Corsica

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

Asterix & Obelix free a Corsican prisoner and help him return to his homeland. There they learn the ways that Corsicans deal with the local Romans...



This is sort of a "reunion" issue at the beginning. I'm not going to redo all the names, I'll just point back to the original stories. It also contains a picture of the isle of Corsica with a massive number of forts on it, all named... That I'll do separately.

Table 20.1. Asterix in Corsica - Roman forts in Corsica

Page, Panel	Comment
Geranium	A flower
Postscriptum	Postscript: p.s. at the end of a letter
Delphinium	Small member of the buttercup family
Ultimatum	A final demand
Auditorium	
Podium	A speaking stand
Pandemonium	Confusion

Page, Panel	Comment
Bunkum	B.S., garbage
Welcum	Welcome
Album	
Tedium	Something boring
Addendum	An addition
Vademecum	Something carried around for constant use
Memorandum	
Potassium	An element
Aluminum	An element
Desideratum	Something needed and wanted
Quoderatdemonstrandum (east)	Quod erat demonstrandum = which was the thing to be proved (Euclid). Used in proofs as QED.
Sodium	An element
Saeculasaeculorum	Saecula saeculorum: world without end (from Catholic Latin Mass). (alt.) forever (lit. An age of ages)
Strontium	An element
Referendum	A meeting on a subject
Adinfinitum	Ad infinitum: so on to infinity
Sternum	The flat bone your ribs attach to in front
Quoderatdemonstrandum (west)	See QED (east)
Chrysanthemum	A flower
Minimum	
Maximum	
Opossum	
Humdrum	Boring, commonplace
Indecorum	Lack of good conduct
Modicum	A little bit
Calcium	An element
Crematorium	Where they burn corpses
Chewingum	Chewing gum
Euphonium	A brass wind instrument
Opium	A drug
Harmonium	Small reed organ
Premium	Extra charge for something in demand
Mausoleum	Above ground burial house for dead people

Page, Panel	Comment
Vanitasvanitatum	Vanitas vanitatum: vanity of vanities (Ecclesiastes 1:2, Vulgate)
Radium	An element
Hum	
Axiom	Axiom: something universally accepted as true
Pendulum	
Factotum	A handyman

Table 20.2. Asterix in Corsica - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 1, Panel 1	"And When I'm Dead..." = A real song that goes "And when I'm dead / don't bury me at all / Just pickle my bones / in alcohol"
Page 1, Panel 3	Alea jacta est = the die is cast (Julius Caesar)
Page 2, Panel 2	"This Time Tomorrow, Where Shall I Be" = Part of this was sung by Alec Guinness in the Lavender Hill Mob
Page 3, Panel 1	Note the cat that features in the camp. Check out Page 10, Panel 1 for its fate... Editor's note: This might not qualify as an annotation. I have decided to add it here to show people that Uderzo is very careful in his drawings (the same people in two consecutive panels stand in the same position relative to each other, for example)
Page 5, Panel 1	See Asterix in Switzerland
Page 5, Panel 2	See Asterix in Spain
Page 5, Panel 3	See Asterix the Gladiator
Page 5, Panel 4	See Asterix in Britain
Page 5, Panel 5	See Asterix and the Banquet
Page 5, Panel 6	See Asterix and the Chieftain's Shield
Page 10, Panel 7	Wellington (and Blucher) defeated Napoleon at Waterloo
Page 12, Panel 2	A reference to the Liberal, Conservative and Labour political parties in the UK.
Page 14, Panel 7	Plaice = a fish
Page 14, Panel 10	O tempora, o mores = O the times! O the morals! From Cicero's first oration against Cataline.
Page 15, Panel 2	This is the start of a lot of bad puns on "Corsica" throughout the book.
Page 15, Panel 8	Errare humanum est = to err is human (Alexander Pope, An Essay on Criticism l.525)
Page 18, Panel 8	Felix qui... = lucky is he who has been able to understand the causes of things. (Virgil, Georgica ii.490)
Page 21, Panel 5	Ballot boxes... probably a jab about mob influence.
Page 24, Panel 9	'Et tu Brute' = see Asterix the Gladiator

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 36, Panel 1	Trust the Corsicans to have "flick-swords" (and even a "flick-pilum" ;-)) to match their knives.
Page 41, Panel 6	Napoleon had a bad habit of slipping his hand into his jacket on his chest.

Table 20.3. Asterix in Corsica - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Perfidius	Perfidious: evil
Hippopotamus	Hippopotamus. Caricature of French actor Raimu.
Boneywasawarrior-wayayix	Boney was a warrior, way ay ay... this is a line from a song about Napoleon Bonaparte (Boney). The "way ay ay ix", "pom tiddley pom," "hey nonny no," etc. are all used as fillers in English folksongs, for instance "There was a lover and his lass, with a hey and a ho and a hey-nonny-no...". Also note how Cacophonix sees the potential for a song in Page 11, Panel 1.
Vermicelli	Vermicelli: a pasta
Mortadella	An Italian sausage
Courtingdisastu	Courting disaster
Lethargix	Lethargic: tired, sleepy
Carferrix	Car ferry. Or, Carferrax (or carfax): a place where four roads meet.
Olabellamargaritix	O la Bella Margarita: a Spanish song popular with buskers.
Violincellix	Violincello, a musical instrument
Chipolata	A small thin sausage. In Dutch it is a pudding with biscuits and liquor.
Salamix	Salami
Potatognocchix	Potato gnocchi: small potato dumplings with sauce
Seminolagnocchix	Seminola gnocchi: Seminola is a British school lunch dessert: "a really disgusting cream sludge, with the texture of sand"
Spaghattix	Spaghetti
Raviolix	Ravioli
Tagliatellix	Tagliatelli: a pasta
Cannellonix	Cannelloni: a pasta
Lasagnix	Lasagna
Tortellinix	Tortellini: a pasta
MacAronix	Macaroni
Desiderata	Title of a famous poem by Max Ehrmann
Fettucinix	Fettucini: a pasta

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Errata	Errata: later corrections to a book
Rigatonix	Rigatoni: a pasta

Chapter 21. Asterix and Caesars Gift

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

When Caesar offers a gift, be suspicious...very suspicious. Upon his release from the Roman Army, Tremensdelirius gets the deed to Asterix's little Gaulish village. But he swaps it for a drink in the tavern--and soon the owner and his family are off to claim their prize. What's going to happen? Surprisingly, Asterix has a different view of the situation than his friends.



Table 21.1. Asterix and Caesars Gift - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 1, Panel 1	Vinum et musica laetificant cor = Wine and music make the heart merry. A variation on the proverbial "vinum bonum laetificat cor hominis"; De mortuis nil nisi bonum = About the dead [say] nothing but good. (Diogenes Laertius, Lives of Eminent Philosophers, I.70)
Page 1, Panel 4	Demob = retirement from the military
Page 3, Panel 1	Legio expedita! = Attention! (literally "Legion, to order!")
Page 4, Panel 1	Qui habet aures audiendi audiat = "Let he that hath ears to hear, let him hear" (Mark 4:9)
Page 27, Panel 5	I am more an antique Roman than a Dane (Shakespeare, Hamlet I.ii.355)
Page 27, Panel 6	Fat, and scant of breath (Hamlet V) (Fat means sweating) O! that this too solid flesh would melt (Hamlet I.ii.129) Give us the foils! (Hamlet V.ii.3.0).

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 27, Panel 7	A hit, a very palpable hit. (Hamlet V.ii.295)
Page 27, Panel 8	The rest is silence. (Hamlet V.ii.372)
Page 27, Panel 9	Zorro cuts a Z on the chests of his enemies

Table 21.2. Asterix and Caesars Gift - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Tremensdelirious	Delirious tremens: shaking condition caused by overdosing on alcohol. The "DTs".
Egganlettus	Egg and lettuce
Angina	Angina: a localized spasm of pain
Influenza	Influenza: the flu virus
Orthapedix	Orthapedix: From Orthopaedics (British) or Orthopedics (American) - the treatment of foot problems. Orthopedix is a caricature of the French actor André Alerme.
Dithyrambix	Dithyramb: any wildly emotion speech or writing
Tonsillitus	Tonsillitis: inflammation of the tonsils

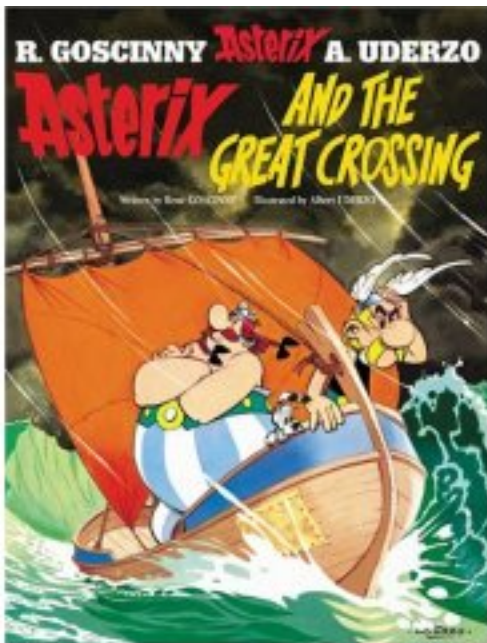
Chapter 22. Asterix and the Great Crossing

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract


Asterix & Obelix go fishing for Getafix, but a storm blows them to a strange new country. There they encounter some unfamiliar natives and some fellow explorers ...



Basically, 'Asterix in America... and a bit of Denmark'. The only book that actually uses a normal name that is not historical.

Table 22.1. Asterix and the Great Crossing - English Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 2, Panel 5	"Some things never change..." - Is this a reference to a French truck drivers strike in 1975/76???
Page 4, Panel 2	Ira furor brevis est = anger is a short madness (Horace, Epistles I.ii.62)
Page 5, Panel 2	The ingredients of the magic potion seem to change at whim. This contradicts other books.
Page 9, Panel 3	Donec eris felix, multos numerabis amicos / Tempora si fuerint nublia, solus eris. = As long as you are lucky, you'll have many friends; / But should the times become cloudy you'll be

Page, Panel	Comment
	alone. -- Ovid, Tristia I,9,5
Page 18, Panel 8	US military insignia. Looks like the collar insignia worn by US Navy Captains and by Colonels in the other US Armed Services. On the other hand, it might just be a representation of the eagle on the US Great Seal which has an olive branch in one claw and a sheaf of arrows in the other.
Page 19, Panel 6	The 50 star portion of the US flag
Page 21, Panel 10	More US military insignia
Page 31, Panel 7	The Statue of Liberty, given to the US by France.  <p>"The Statue of Liberty" by Uderzo</p>
Page 32, Panel 4	"A small step for me, a giant leap for mankind" = A take-off on Neil Armstrong's "One small step for a man, a giant leap for mankind"
Page 36, Panel 5	The Black Wolf logo on the teepee = ???
Page 36, Panel 6	"what shall we do with a drunken sailor". The other song is a parody of 'Spanish Ladies', an old British Navy Song. The chorus starts - 'We'll rant and we'll roar like two British sailors...'
Page 37, Panel 4	Niffheim = Hell
Page 41, Panel 1	"Something is rotten in the state of Denmark" (Shakespeare, Hamlet, I.iv.90). The skull is from Hamlet V.i.201.
Page 43, Panel 9	"To be or not to be..." = Hamlet again. Act III, Sc. I

Annotations of the American Edition are only in addition to those already covered in the English edition.

Table 22.2. Asterix and the Great Crossing - American Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 9, Panel 5	The pirate in the crows-nest can pronounce the letter 'R'. In the original and all other translations, he cannot.

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 19, Panel 5	New Deal: recovery plan for the Depression by Franklin Delanor Roosevelt
Page 21, Panel 10 (also. Page 22, panel 2; Page 24, Panel 4)	Ancient region in the eastern part of Balkan peninsula, southeastern Europe including modern northeastern Greece, southern Bulgaria and European Turkey (Gobble Gobble ? ;-)
Page 27, Panel 9	"Somewhere over the rainbow" : song from the Wizard of Oz. Refers to promised land.
Page 27, Panel 10	East river: refers to the river to the east of Manhattan, NY
Page 27, Panel 11	Flying Dutchman: Legendary Dutch mariner condemned to sail the seas until Judgment Day -- also, the Dutch purchased Manhattan Island from the Canarsee Indians for 60 guilders (US\$ 24) in 1626.; (alt. less likely) Paavo Nurmi?; "Cretans, Thracians, Iberians, ...Dutchmen...strange melting pot" -- "America is God's Crucible, the great Melting-Pot where all the races of Europe are melting and re-forming!" [Israel Zangwill, "The Melting Pot", Act I {1908}]
Page 28, Panel 7	New Frontier: 1960 program by John F. Kennedy. See 'New Deal' above
Page 31, Panel 4	Green Witch village: Greenwich village in lower Manhattan, NY.
Page 37, Panel 8	This new found land: Newfoundland - Easternmost part of North America.
Page 38, Panel 2	New World how Symphonic : Symphony no. 9 ' The New World' by Dvorak 1893
Page 39, Panel 8	Superman. Another comic figure
Page 40, Panel 3	"do unto others" - (the Golden Rule) Matthew 7:12 or Luke 6:13
Page 40, Panel 5	Saturday night fever: 1977 film featuring John Travolta.
Page 44, Panel 3	Roman empire state: contraction of Roman empire and Empire state (New York state)
Page 44, Panel 5	fish and ships: refers to the English "fish and chips."

Table 22.3. Asterix and the Great Crossing - English Names

English Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Huntingseassen	Hunting season
Herendethelessen	Here endeth the lesson
Steptoanssen	Steptoe Hansen: From Steptoe and Son, a British comedy show from the 60's, redone for the US as "Sanford and Son."
Haraldwilssen	Harold Wilson: 60's/70's British Labour prime minister. Even looks like him.
Nogoodreassen	No good reason
Odiuscomparissen	Odious comparison. May have originated in the phrase 'Comparisons are odious' from Cervantes' Don Quixote. The phrase was tossed around by various authors in 16th and 17th century. Often enough that Shakespeare made a pun on it in 'Much Ado About Nothing' : 'Comparisons are odorous'
Gertrude	Gertrude: standard feminine name

English Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Intrude	Intrude: to force in upon
Irmgard	Irmgard: standard feminine name
Firegard	Fireguard: some material built to withstand fire
Catastrofix	Catastrophic: disastrous

Table 22.4. Asterix and the Great Crossing - American Names

American Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Donneranblitsen	(German) Donner und Blitzen = Thunder and Lightning; (alt.) Donner and Blitzen (Santa's reindeer) - the big Norse dog.
Visconson	Wisconsin (northern state in US)
Belenos	A Celtic god. Name means 'Bright Light'
Bittermedisen	Bitter medicine
Delicatessen	Vendor / maker of food products. Deli.
Flotsen	Flotsam: floating debris (see next)
Jetsen	jetsam = jettison: part of ship or cargo cast overboard in times of distress.
Odin	Viking chief god
Zeroopsen	Zero option ie. no choice; (alt.) zero; opsin: a protein in the retina that absorbs light allowing us to see. Hence blindness ?
Doktoraldissertasen	Doctoral dissertation
Vatermocassen	Water mocassin - a venomous pit viper closely related to the copperhead
Gudrun	The wife of Sigurd and later of Atli in Norse mythology.; (alt. less likely) Good Run??
Longrun	Long run: a relatively long period of time as in "In the long run"
Homerun	Home run. Baseball term that denotes a hit by the batter enabling him to make a complete circuit of the base and score a run. No fourth woman like in the original. Lack of space??
Melancholix	Melancholy - depressed. This name also appears in Asterix in Belgium

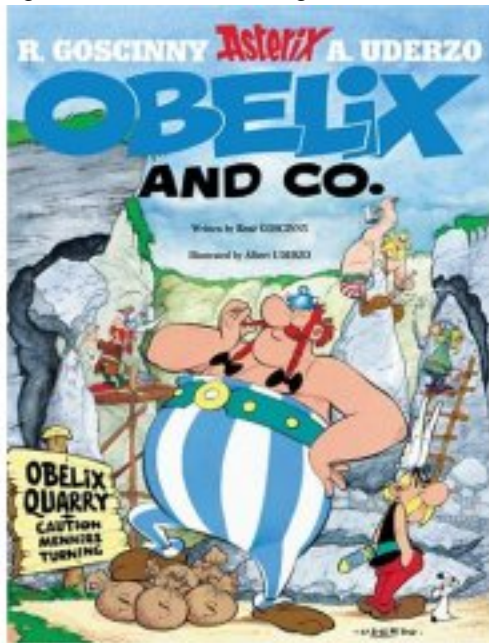
Chapter 23. Obelix and Co

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

Caesar sends a strange Roman to start buying menhirs off Obelix. When his business booms overnight, it isn't long before the whole village is into the menhir industry and greed takes over...



The other book without Asterix in the title. And Obelix does pretty much star in this one. More political satire.

Table 23.1. Obelix and Co - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 2, Panel 5	The two carrying the drunk are Uderzo and Goscinny. The person being carried is modeled after Pierre Tchernia.
Page 8, Panel 7	LSE = London School of Economics; Apparently this is young Jacques Chirac. Twenty years on, Glen F Koorey can see the resemblance. Credit here goes to Finn Bjorklid's excellent article on Asterix in the Norwegian magazine about the comic - <i>Tegn</i> (4/94) [http://www.ifi.uio.no/~janl/ts/asterix-article.html]
Page 8, Panel 10	The guy on the right has gout
Page 17, Panel 6	Veni, vidi, vici: I came, I saw, I conquered (Julius Caesar)
Page 19, Panel 3	Sign is equivalent to the modern "Caution! Trucks Turning."

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 19, Panel 7	"You savvy" = You understand
Page 23, Panel 5	Laurel and Hardy
Page 29, Panel 6	Redde Caesar...: Render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's. (Matt 22:21).
Page 29, Panel 8	Si vis pacem, para bellum = If you want peace, prepare for war. (Vegetius, 4th-5th cent. AD)
Page 31, Panel 4	Alea jacta est = the die is cast (Julius Caesar)
Page 34, Panel 9	That symbol is Romulus and Remus, the legendary founders of Rome, being suckled by a she-wolf
Page 35, Panel 6	See 'Appian Way' in Geography
Page 36, Panel 7	Modeled on an Egyptian obelisk (like Cleopatra's needle)
Page 36, Panel 9	Uti, non abuti = Use, don't abuse.
Page 37, Panel 7	Brutus murdered Caesar in 44 BC.

Table 23.2. Obelix and Co - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Scrofulus	Scrofulous: Morally corrupt
Ignoramus	Ignoramus: ignorant and stupid
Caius Preposterus	Preposterous: unbelievable. A caricature of Jacques Chirac.
Larcenus	Larcenous: inclined to theft
Analgesix	Analgesics: rub-on medicines to ease pain
Monosyllabix	Monosyllabic: speaking in single syllables
Polysyllabix	Polysyllabic: speaking in big words
Pacifix	Pacific Ocean
Atlantix	Atlantic Ocean
Baltix	Baltic Sea
Adriatix	Adriatic Sea
Woolix	Wooly. Or Woolworths?
Incongruous	Incongruous: something out of place
Meretricius	Meretricious: like a prostitute, false showy charms

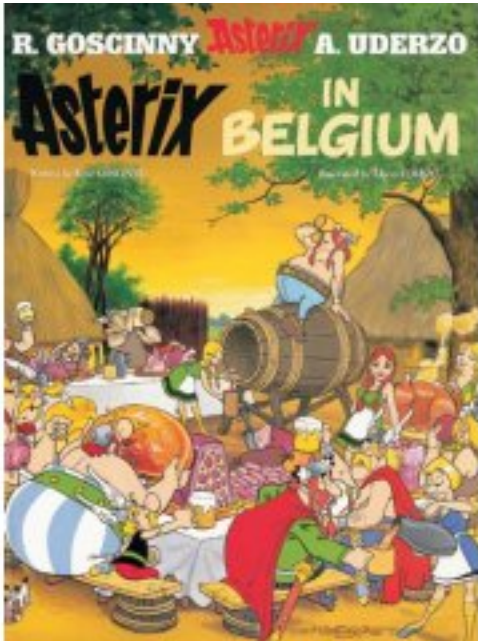
Chapter 24. Asterix in Belgium

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

When Caesar says that the Belgians are the bravest Gauls, an enraged Vitalstatistix sets out to prove them wrong. Together with Asterix & Obelix, he challenges the Belgians to a Roman-thumping competition...



This one has a *lot* of "guest appearances." I'm sure I've missed a few. This story was in the making when Goscinny died. After more than a year, Uderzo finished the story, writing most of the last pages.



The translators did an *exceptional* job. The translators give "Apologies to: George Gordon, Lord Byron, Mr. Wm. Shakespeare, Mr. John Milton, and Pieter Breughel the Elder". George Gordon Noel Byron is Lord Byron's full name. This is the reason why Ron Dippold could not find a separate reference for George Gordon ver. 1.0 of the annotations. Harry Fluks notes that in the Belgian version, Victor Hugo ("for the text") and Breughel ("for the drawings") are thanked separately.



Glen Koorey notes - Apparently, Victor Hugo's "Les Chatiments" (Waterloo) is used in the French version. Not sure where. In my book, the text is bolder than usual and rounded. It actually makes it much easier to read. Most of the subsequent books are like this.

Historical Note. Caesar defeated the Belgian tribes like the Nervii (57-46 B.C.). Belgium was a Roman province beginning 16 B.C. Caesar actually thought that the Belgians were the bravest of all the Gaulish people because, given their location, they were furthest from polite manners and education of the Roman provinces.

Table 24.1. Asterix in Belgium - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 2, Panel 3	"When Gaius comes marching home again" = "When Jonny comes marching home again ..."; "Menhir a new day will come..." = "Many a New Day (from Oklahoma!)"
Page 2, Panel 5	"It's plane infuriating... I shall never be in concorde..." = Ironic considering that the Concorde has now been grounded.
Page 3, Panel 1	"We're going to hang our washing on the Armorican line". A reference to the WWII patriotic song "We're going to hang out our washing on the Siegfried line". The Siegfried line was the German line of defence works.
Page 4, Panel 10	This is from "De Bello Gallico"
Page 5, Panel 5	This is the case today
Page 6, Panel 2	Is this the only example of talking "outside the story" in the entire series ???
Page 7, Panel 3	"It is a far better thing I do now than I have ever done before..." - The last lines from 'A Tale of Two Cities' by Charles Dickens
Page 15, Panel 6	Pseudonymus is from Asterix's old legion/cohort/manipule/century from Asterix the Legionary
Page 16, Panel 3	Oppidums = Fortified places set on artificial hills; Belgium is known as a very flat country
Page 16, Panel 5	Bib and Tucker = an entire outfit of clothes.
Page 17, Panel 1	Bonanza is based on the Belgian actress Annie Cordy
Page 17, Panel 3	The Belgians are famous for their food
Page 21, Panel 11	"Gallant little Belgian". A WWII reference to the time Belgium refused to allow German forces free passage. The phrase "Gallant little Belgium" was much used in the press.
Page 22, Panel 1	Non licet omnibus adire corinthum = It is not given to everyone to reach Corinth. This is close to Horace, "Non cuivis homini contingit adire Corinthum": Not everyone is lucky enough to get to Corinth (Horace, Epistles I.xvii.35)
Page 23, Panel 1	Name is Legion = Mark 5:9 (and Luke 8:30)
Page 25, Panel 1	This is the start of references to cabbages of which, Brussels sprouts are just one variety.
Page 26, Panel 8	"I shall go, I shall see and I shall conquer". The future tense of 'Vini, Vidi, Vici'.
Page 27, Panel 8	The Thompson Twins, from Tintin. The word balloons are done in that style as well.
Page 28, Panel 7	Waterzooi = A Belgian recipe which is basically eel in cream sauce.
Page 28, Panel 8	"meeting with Caesar on the playing fields when we've eaten". A reference to Lord Wellington's famous quote: "The battle of Waterloo was won on the playing fields of Eton".
Page 29, Panel 7	This is Manneken Pis (the little pissing man), a famous fountain in Brussels, commemorating a legendary little boy who extinguished a bomb under the Brussels walls by urinating on the fuse... Another version has it that the boy was lost and his father said that if he (the boy) was found, he'd (the father) commission a statue of the boy whatever state he (the boy) was found in.
Page 29, Panel 8	A reference to the EEC (European Economic Community) as it was back then. See also

Page, Panel	Comment
	Page 30, Panel 1.
Page 30, Panel 7	Belgium was famous for its lace (still is for the tourists)
Page 31, Panel 5	Moriturus te saluto = I who am about to die salute you. Again a reference to "Morituri te salutant" said by gladiators saluting the Emperor.
Page 35, Panel 4	This is Eddy Merckx, famous Belgian cyclist. Eddy Merckx won the Tour de France five times between 1969 and 1974.
Page 35, Panel 9	This scene is modeled on Ernest Meissonier painting showing Napoleon campaigning in France. The original is often called, wrongly, the retreat from Moscow.  "Napoleon in the campaign in France" by Ernest Meissonier  "Caesar in the campaign in Gaul" by Uderzo
Page 36, Panels 3, 4 and 7	But hush! hark! a deep sound strikes like a rising knell! ... Arm! Arm! It is - it is - the cannon's opening roar! (Lord Byron, Beppo c.III.s.23)
Page 37, Panel 1	I suspect this is Beppo c.III stanza 24, but I don't have it to check against. ???
Page 37, Panel 3	Xenophobia: dislike of foreigners
Page 39, Panel 1	Did ye not hear it? No -- 'twas but the wind / Or the car rattling o'er the stony street; / On with the dance! (Beppo c.III.s.12)
Page 39, Panel 5	Nearer, clearer, deadlier than before... = Reference to Byron's 'Childe Harold's Pilgrimage'
Page 40, Panel 1	Cry "Havoc!" and let slip the dogs of war (Shakespeare, Julius Caesar III.i.273)
Page 41, Panel 1	But yesterday the word of Caesar might / Have stood against the world (Julius Caesar III.ii.124); That day he overcame the Nervii (Julius Caesar, Act III, Scene II)
Page 41, Panel 2	Chaos umpire sits... Chance governs all. (Milton, Paradise Lost bk.II.l.907)

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 41, Panel 5	"Publish and be damned!" Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington to Harriette Wilson, who threatened to publish her memoirs and his letters.
Page 41, Panel 7	With ruin upon ruin, rout upon rout, Confusion worse confounded (Paradise Lost bk.II.1995)
Page 43, Panel 1	This panel is an almost exact copy of the painting "Peasant Wedding Feast" (circa 1568) by Pieter Breughel the Elder.
	
"Peasant Wedding Feast" (c 1568) by Pieter Brughel	
	
"Belgian Feast" by Uderzo	

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 43	"There was a sound of revelry by night." - Byron, Childe Harold's Pilgrimage (c.III s.21)
Page 44, Panel 6	"On with the dance. Let joy be unconfined." - Byron again. Ibid. (c.III s.22); Near the lower left corner of the final panel note the rabbit sadly looking over his shoulders towards Goscinny's signature. A cartoon good-bye to Goscinny who passed away before this book was finished.

Table 24.2. Asterix in Belgium - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Pseudonymus	Pseudonym: a name used instead of the author's real name. E.g. 'thaths' ;-)
Beefix	Beefy
Brawnix	Brawny
Melancholix	Melancholy: depressed
Alcoholix	Alcoholic
Potbellix	Potbellied
Bonanza	Bonanza: a source of wealth or profits. As well as the western TV show.
Saintlouisblus	Saint Louis blues. A style of Blues and the title of a song by Billie Holiday.
Wolfgangamadeus	Wolfgang Amadeus: the first and middle names of Mozart
Monotonus	Monotonous: boring
Botanix	Botany: the study of plants
Califlowa	Cauliflower

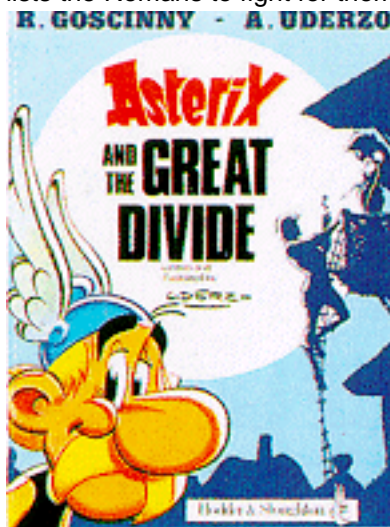
Chapter 25. Asterix and the Great Divide

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

A Gaulish village is split between two chiefs, causing many difficulties for the villagers. When one side enlists the Romans to fight for them, Asterix, Obelix, & Getafix are called in to help...



This is the first book after Goscinny's death. Uderzo was the artist, so the adventures can continue. The story here isn't quite as memorable as some of the best Asterixes, but is actually pretty good. Notice how the two leaders Cleverdix and Majestix wear horizontal and vertical striped trousers in the beginning. At the end when they're friends again you can see them both wearing chequered trousers.

Table 25.1. Asterix and the Great Divide - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 1, Panel 4	(at least in Dutch and Frysian) Majestix says something like 'The village, that's me'. This is a parody of "l'etat c'est moi" (I am the state). Attributed to King Louis XIV (le Roi Soleil) who is supposed to have spoken these words to the parliament of Paris in the session of April 13th, 1655. Interestingly, in the French version he says "le village c'est moi".
Page 2, Panel 3	"sinister" and "dextrous" are old terms for the left and right handed respectively.
Page 4, Panel 3	Roman Geezer = a Cockney rhyming slang ???
Page 10, Panel 4	O Romeo, Romeo! wherefore art thou, Romeo (Shakespeare, Romeo and Juliet II.ii.33). The whole story is along the lines of Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet' (except they they don't die).

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 14, Panel 9	Nunc dimittis = (literally) leave now. Nunc Dimittis is the Latin name of the passage in the second chapter of Like (Luke 2:29-32) that is also commonly called Canticle of Simeon.
Page 17, Panel 7	"Gauls never, never, never will be slaves" = A reference to "Rule Britannia" a song by Thomas Augustine Arne based on the poem of the same title by James Thompson (1700-1748)
Page 28, Panel 4	Requiescamus in pace = Let us rest in peace (Latin Mass for the dead: Requiescant in pace).
Page 38, Panel 1	Caveat emptor = let the buyer beware
Page 40, Panel 1	Aqua vitae = Water of Life. This is sometimes used to refer to Whiskey. The Gaelic for "water of life" is "uisge beatha", from which the word whiskey is derived; (alt.) In Norway there is a strong drink based on potatoes called Akkevit, of one prefers a slightly more fancy spelling, Aquevit; Terra firma = solid ground
Last Page, Last Panel	'Future generations will refuse to believe this'; - A reference to the Berlin wall?

Table 25.2. Asterix and the Great Divide - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Cleverdix	Clever Dick: Americans might say "wise ass".
Majestix	Majestic: regal, king-like
Histrionix	Histrionics: an artificial or affective manner; excessive dramatics
Codfix	Codfish
Altruistix	Altruistic: unselfish concern for welfare of others
Alcaponix	Al Capone: famous American mobster of the 30's
Melodrama	Melodrama: extravagantly emotional. Much like histrionics
Angelica	Angelic
Schizophrenix	Schizophrenic: a mental disorder. In popular use a split personality.
Sourpus	Sourpuss
Infectius Virus	Infectious virus: transmittable disease
Umbrageous Cu-mulonimbus	Umbrageous: giving shade; cumulonimbus: storm cloud
Congenitalidiotix	Congenital idiot: idiocy caused by a birth defect

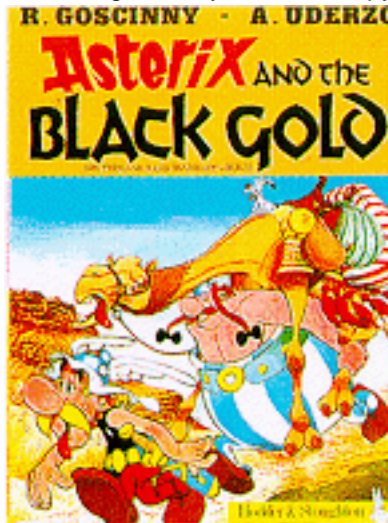
Chapter 26. Asterix and the Black Gold

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

When the magic potion runs out Asterix & Obelix must travel to the Middle East to obtain a vital ingredient. Along the way, a Roman spy tries to thwart their progress...



"Asterix in the Middle East" Another one that proves that Uderzo isn't bad at all on his own. Quite a bit of good James Bond parody.

Table 26.1. Asterix and the Black Gold - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 3, Panel 6	MI6 is a British espionage agency
Page 4, Panel 6	Papyrus: paper; The fly is constantly infatuated with Dubbelosix, in the same way that Miss Moneypenny always has a crush on 007.
Page 4, Panel 8	The chariot and its many devices (see pages 10-12) is typical of the gadgets featured in Bond moves.
Page 5, Panel 2	Glen Koorey thinks that the self-destructing message comes from "Mission Impossible". ???
Page 9, Panel 7	Quaestor = Roman inspector / auditor.
Page 11, Panel 6	Hors de combat: out of action, disabled
Page 18, Panel 8	Non omnia possumus omnes = we can't all do everything (Virgil, Eclogue vii.63 attrib to Macrobius Lucilius, Saturnalia vi.1.35)
Page 19, Panel 3	Magnum opus: someone's greatest work

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 22, Panel 8	Bireme = two sets of oars on each side; trireme=three; quadrireme=four, quinquireme=five (big as they got)
Page 27, Panel 1	Shalom: "peace," traditional Jewish greeting or farewell. Note that Joshua Ben Zedrin asks the news from a prophet.
Page 27, Panel 10	Jesus was born in a stable in Bethlehem
Page 28, Panel 10	A reference to the wailing wall of Jerusalem.
Page 30, Panel 7	Mazel tov: "good luck" traditional
Page 31, Panel 1	Matthew 27:25 "My hands are clean of this man's blood"
Page 32, Panel 8	Akkad was an ancient region in N. Babylonla, 3.00-1100 BC. Sumer was an ancient region of the lower Euphrates, back past 4000 BC
Page 33, Panel 5	Hittite: Asia Minor and Syria from 1700-700 BC
Page 33, Panel 10	Assyria: Upper Tigris, peak was about 700 BC
Page 34, Panel 5	Media: What is now NW Iran
Page 41, Panel 5	ave atque vale = hail, and farewell evermore (Catullus 87-54 BC, Carmina ci)

Table 26.2. Asterix and the Black Gold - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Baal	Hebrew for 'master,lord". God of lightning, thunder and rain.
M. Devius Surreptitius	Devious: clever; surreptitious: sneaky, unnoticeable. M is the guy in charge of James Bond's agency, and he looks like him. A caricature of French actor Bernard Blier (1916 - 1989).
Dubbelosix	006: James Bond is 007. Caricature of Sean Connery.
Ekonomikrisis	Economic crisis. From Asterix the Gladiator.
Samson Alius (Rosenblumenthalovich)	Samson: as in Samson and Delilah; alias: because his real name is about as stereotypical Jewish as you get... the "ovitch" even suggests Russian Jew; (alt.) According to 'Reilly: Ace of Spies' by Robin Bruce-Lockhart, the (in)famous British spy of the late 19th - early 20th Century, Sidney Reilly, was the illegitimate son of a married Russian woman and a Viennese Jewish doctor. Reilly's birth name was "Sigmund" and his real father's name was, here is the kicker, Rosenbloom. Rosenbloom/ Reilly was associated with the early British oil exploations in the Middle East - specifically, Persia - and was also known for the many disguises and aliases he would use.
Joshua ben Zedrin	Benzedrine is an addictive amphetamine (drug).
Isaiah	Isaiah: a prophet
Saul Ben Ephishul	So beneficial. A caricature of Goscinny
Pontius Pirate	Pontius Pilate. Modelled on the French actor Jean Gabin who played Inspector Maigret in many movies based on the Simenon novels.
Classis Tyrannicus	Classic tyrannical: typical tyrant

Chapter 27. Asterix and Son

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

A baby boy is found on Asterix's doorstep. The villagers must look after this little handful, while trying to find out where he came from...



Historical Note. Cleopatra seduced Julius Caesar when he came to Alexandria in pursuit of Pompey. She bore his son.

Table 27.1. Asterix and Son - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 1, Panel 2	Adenoids: growths of tissue in the upper throat behind the nose.
Page 11, Panel 9	Quod erat demonstrandum = which was the thing to be proved (Euclid). Used in proofs as QED.
Page 12, Panel 9	"Big fleas have little fleas upon their back to bite 'em, and little has lesser fleas and so on ad infinitum." Jonathan Swift "Poetry, A Rhapsody".
Page 42, Panel 2	Ad nauseam = to the point of disgust
Page 43, Panel 1	See Asterix and Cleopatra
Page 44, Panel 5	A rare example of Caesar being on the same side as the Gauls

Table 27.2. Asterix and Son - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Bucolix	Bucolic: rustic, countrified. He talks like stereotypical English country bumpkin.
Crismus Cactus	Christmas cactus
Brutus	Historical: Marcus Junius Brutus, adopted son of Julius Caesar and one of the conspirators who murdered him
Odiferus	Odiferous: something that smells. Who's he look like ???
Aromatix	Aromatic: something that smells.
Fotogenix	Photogenic: looks good on camera
Aspidistra	A houseplant with broad tapering leaves
Cleopatra	Historical: 69-30 BC, queen of Egypt and mistress of Julius Caesar and Mark Antony. There were many "Cleopatra"s but this is the famous one.
Caesarion	Historical: Ptolemy XVI ruled till 30 BC, last of his dynasty

Chapter 28. Asterix and the Magic Carpet

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

An Indian fakir on a flying carpet seeks out Cacophonix's talent for making it rain when he sings. Together with Asterix & Obelix they fly east to try to end a drought that could spell disaster for the ruling rajah...



Asterix in India. This one just seems... different for some reason. There's far more words and footnoted references than ever before, and there are fewer panels per page. This one seems like it was trying to be an adventure without trying to be very funny. It has the Goscinnyrlix / Uderzorix painting at the front.

Table 28.1. Asterix and the Magic Carpet - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 1, Panel 1	"Oh what a beautiful morning, oh what a beautiful day..." = Reference to "Oh, What a beautiful morning" by Richards Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein from the movie "Oklahoma!"
Page 6, Panel 6	Rather convenient for the purpose of this story that all of a sudden Cacophonix's singing can bring rain.
Page 9, Panel 12	One over the eight = drunk
Page 11, Panel 7	The pirates seem to have enlisted the services of Frankenstein's Monster..
Page 12, Panel 8	Sic transit gloria mundi = Thus passes the glory of the world (said at the coronation of a pope)

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 12, Panel 3	Caesar even looks Asian in this scene
Page 17, Panel 2	The Sirens lured ships to their peril on the rocks by their beautiful singing. Odysseus avoided this by plugging the ears of his sailors with wax.
Page 18, Panel 9	"Here we go ..." = drunken football fan song.
Page 30, Panel 5	Contraria contrariis curantur = The opposites are cured by their opposites (Hippocrates, Breaths, bk.I); Quot capita, tot sensus = So many heads, so many opinions.
Page 34, Panel 1	"Not out" is the unsuccessful reply by a cricket umpire to a "Howzat" appeal.
Page 39, Panel 5	This is a reference to the evil vizier Iznogoud in Goscinny and Tabary's "Caliph" series, who wants "To be caliph instead of the caliph".

Table 28.2. Asterix and the Magic Carpet - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Watziznehm	What's his name?
Watzit	What's it?
Orinjade	Orangeade
Hoodunnit	Who done it? Watch the smiley face on his robe, it's hilarious.
Incautius	Incautious
Onthepremises	On the premises
Metoffis	Met Office: The Meteorological Office (i.e. the weather bureau). In the original French, this character was called Hoeneme, a pun on ONM - the French weather bureau; (alt.) Meta-physic: having to do with the supernatural
Lehmonade	Lemonade
Howdoo	How do?
Owzat	How's that? This is also a term from Cricket. To take a wicket, the fielding team must appeal to the umpire, "How's that?" now corrupted to "Owzat?" or, these days, something like, "Aaaaaaarzaarrrrrghh?"
Iznogoud	Is no good.

Chapter 29. Asterix and the Secret Weapon

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

A woman bard is unheard of in Ancient Gaul - but when the mothers in Asterix and Obelix's little village decide that besides being a terrible musician Cacophonix, the local bard and school teacher is not educating their children properly, it's Bravura they call in. The men of the village are horrified at first, but Bravura proves a useful ally in countering Julius Caesar's secret weapon - a troop of female legionaries who the chivalrous Gauls cannot fight. But Bravura has no such scruples, and together with Asterix thinks up a good idea.



Table 29.1. Asterix and the Secret Weapon - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 0	(The Goscinny/Uderzo drawing) Actually, Uderzo is tall and thin, Goscinny was shorter and portly.
Page 1, Panel 8	Pethth = ??? Is this 'crazy' as lisped by a child?
Page 3, Panel 4	"Qualis Artifex Pereo": Often attributed as Nero's last words, but he had quite a few after these.
Page 4, Panel 2	Oppidum = Latin for the main settlement in an administrative area.
Page 4, Panel 4	"Oriental 'Djeans', Levix and Leggings": Levis Jeans.
Page 4, Panel 6	"One times three is Asterix....": Is this rhyme from anything ???

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 7, Panel 4	"Armorica! Armorica! God shed his grace on thee!" = Adaptation of "America The Beautiful" by Katharine Lee Bates
Page 8, Panel 2	Adenoids: growths of tissue in the upper throat behind the nose.
Page 8, Panel 3	"In Lutetia's fair city where the girls are so pretty" = Adaptation of Irish ditty "Molly Malone".
Page 8, Panel 7	Cardia and Mytili: cities. Mitili(ni) was the capital of Lesbos, which may or may not be a commentary by the translators...
Page 10, Panel 7	Gloria victis: Glory to the vanquished.
Page 11, Panel 6	"What's in a name?" = What's in a name? That which we call a rose / By any other name would smell as sweet (Shakespeare, Romeo and Juliet II.ii.43)
Page 15, Panel 1	I am Sergent Peppus' Lonely ... : A popular song / album by The Beatles
Page 15, Panel 8	Desinit in piscem mulier formosa superne: So that which is a beautiful woman on top ends in a black and ugly fish (Horace, Ars Poetica 3).
Page 22, Panel 3	Quod erat demonstrandum = which was the thing to be proved (Euclid). Used in proofs as QED.
Page 30, Panel 3	The guy on the right is definitely someone ???. In the Dutch version he has an italian accent.
Page 33, Panel 9	Anacreontic: Poem written in the manner of Anacreon (died 478 BC), convivial in tone.
Page 40, Panel 5	Rusticated: Suspended temporarily from college or university, in England
Page 41, Panel 5	Patrician: A member of the roman nobility
Page 43, Panel 2	Onomatopoeic: a word that sounds like the sound it names (boom, cuckoo, bang).
Page 44, Panel 5	Impresario: manager of a theater company

Table 29.2. Asterix and the Secret Weapon - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Bravura	A type of music requiring exceptional ability
Mollia Malonus	Molly Malloy (Malone), from the song
Manlius Claphamom-nibus	Clapham: a district in SW London. Omnibus: double decker bus. "the man on the Clapham omnibus" is familiar British phrase for "the average man."
Diorix	Christian Dior, a famous clothes designer
Cosmetix	Cosmetics. Check out his outfit!
Ziegfeldfollix	The Ziegfeld follies. Florence Ziegfeld from 1869-1932.

Chapter 30. Asterix and Obelix all at Sea

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

A handful of galley slaves, led by a Kirk Douglas-ian Spartakis, revolt against Caesar and steal the Roman Navy's finest ship. Pursued by the Roman Navy, they take refuge in Asterix's village. Obelix reverts back to childhood and loses his strength due to an overdose of magic potion. Can Asterix save the rebels and his friend...

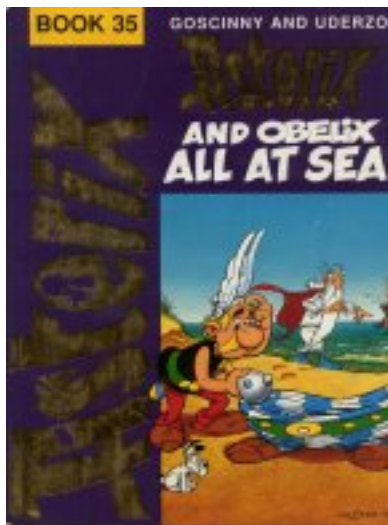


Table 30.1. Asterix and Obelix all at Sea - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 1, Panel 1	Gormless = Foolish; Lacking sense
Page 2, Panel 10	Caesar wrote a famous book on his Gallic wars. Goscinny and Uderzo got most of their historical background for the Asterix books from Caesar's books.
Page 3, Panel 3	Spartakis is a caricature of Kirk Douglas who starred in the movie Spartacus.
Page 3, Panel 4	'Garden Path' = To lead somebody up the garden path is to lead them astray; 'Zo too hope I' = The German speaks English with a German accent and attempted English grammar.
Page 3, Panel 5	Liberty boat = Liberty ships were mass produced freighters built by Americans for the British for the British to transport supplies during WWII.
Page 4, Panel 3	'Better port in Lusitania' = Lusitania is the ancient name for Portugal. The port is Lisbon. Contributor Tom McCarthy feels that the town / port is Oporto and not Lisbon. Port

Page, Panel	Comment
	Wine is named so because it is made in this region and shipped from Oporto.
Page 4, Panel 4	Waterloo is in Belgium.
Page 4, Panel 5	"Heim, Heim... There's no place like Heim!" = 'Home, Sweet Home... There's no place like home'. Heim is German for Home
Page 4 Panel 7	Knock the Romans for six = An expression from Cricket. One can get up to a maximum of six runs on a single delivery by hitting the ball over the boundary without hitting the ground.
Page 5, Panel 5	Peace with honor = Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain's (1869 - 1940) announcement that he had achieved "peace with honour. I believe it is peace in our time" to the British people following his appeasement of Hitler in 1938 with the signing of Munich treaty; (alt.) Richard Nixon's speech announcing the end of American involvement in Vietnam in Jan 1973. I believe it was also a phrase that was used widely in his election campaign; (alt.) Apparently the phrase was also the election slogan of the Democratic party candidates of Cox and Roosevelt in 1920.
Page 5, Panel 6	Policy of appeasement = The politics of British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain of avoiding war with Germany at all cost, even allowing Germany to occupy Bohemia in 1937.
Page 5, Panel 10	Nothing to suggest that they were going to attack = Germany did attack Poland in 1939 (also see above)
Page 7, Panel 6	Asterix gets the name wrong as Crustiferus. In Portuguese 'cruz de ferro' means 'Iron Cross' - the famous Nazi medal during WW II.
Page 8, Panel 1	Turn my toga = A Toga being the nearest Roman equivalent for a coat, this could mean turncoat i.e. traitor.
Page 9, Panel 5	Between a rock and a hard place sunshine = "between a rock and a hard place" = stuck between two equally bad alternatives. "Sunshine" is a (generally) unfriendly salutation; Unhygienic (considering what he is saying ;-) looks "stoned" in this panel.
Page 13, Panel 7	Panacea = See Asterix the Legionary
Page 13, Panel 10	A (pictorial) reference to the fairy tale of The Sleeping Beauty (Am I reading too much into this?)
Page 15, Panel 4	'Strong is our' = Some famous speech ???
Page 25, Panel 9	Marcus Gavius Apicius was a famous Roman cook who wrote his recipes down in "De Re Coquinaria".
Page 27, Panel 5	Summa jus, summa injuria = Extreme justice is extreme injustice (Cicero)
Page 29, Panel 1	'desserts' (the after eating after a meal kind) is spelled wrong. (Pun?)
Page 34, Panel 1	The large picture with the flying bull and cows is taken from a section of Disney's 'Fantasia', where flying horses were used, (note the little black one at the back, there is a little black horse in the film that has trouble flying).
Page 36, Panel 5	'Nunc est Bibendum, nunc pede liberi pulsanda tellus' = 'Now it is the time to drink, and now it is time for the loose feet to hit the floor' (Horace: Odes) i.e. Party Time!
Page 37, Panel 6	'Felix Qui Potuit Rerum Cognoscere Causas.' = Happy be he who can recognise the cause of things. (Virgil, Georgica 2, 490)

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 37, Panel 8	'Elementary my dear Crustacius' = Take off on 'Elementary my dear Watson.'
Page 41, Panel 4	Balistas are giant bow-and-arrows like sling shots.

Table 30.2. Asterix and Obelix all at Sea - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Crustacius	Crustaceous = Relating to, having, or forming a crust or shell
Nautilus	Any of a genus (Nautilus) of cephalopod mollusks of the South Pacific and Indian Oceans with a spiral chambered shell that is pearly on the inside.
Spartikis	Spartacus. Roman slave and insurrectionist; defeated several Roman armies sent against him before being beaten by Crassus and killed in battle.
Poseidon	Greek god of the sea
Neptune	Roman god of the sea
Gluttonus	One given habitually to greedy and voracious eating and drinking.
Absolutilifabulous	Absolutely Fabulous - the famous English Sitcom. This character is a caricature of Jean-Paul Rouland.

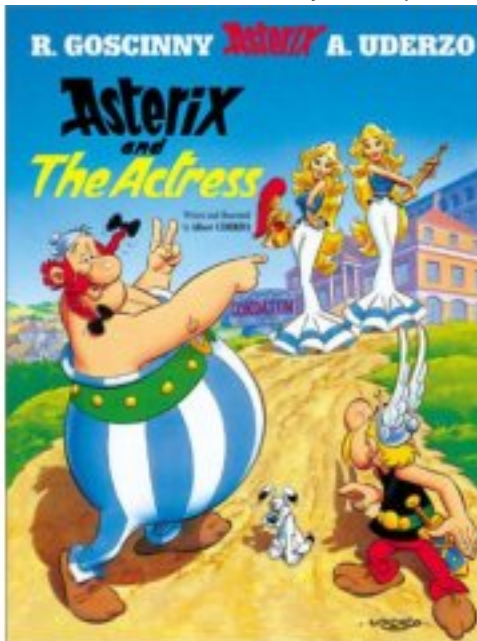
Chapter 31. Asterix and the Actress

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

An actress masquerading as Panacea (see Asterix the Legionary) gets sent by Pompeii to recover his helmet and sword that is currently in the possession of the Gauls.



The book has a dedication that says "à Hugo mon petit-fils". What does this mean??? This is the first new book to be released in 5 years. The humour seems a bit forced. We meet Asterix and Obelix's parents for the first time. A number of characters from previous books also make a reappearance.

Table 31.1. Asterix and the Actress - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 1, Panel 3	Continuity problem. In Page 1, Panel 1 all the chimneys are smoking. Here, in a matter of just minutes only two chimneys are shown as smoking.
Page 2, Panel 2	This is the first reference in the books to Asterix and Obelix sharing the same birthday. This appears in variance with only Obelix celebrating his birthday in Obelix and Co.
Page 3, Panel 4	HGV: Pun on the French TGV
Page 4, Panel 6	The souvenir business of Astronomix and Obeliscoidix is called Modernities and not Antiques
Page 7, Panel 2	Tremesdelirious' "Hic, Haec, Hoc": Latin declension of 'Hic'. See annotation for 'Page 22,

Page, Panel	Comment
	Panel 8' of Asterix and the Chieftain's Shield
Page 7, Panel 7	"that play 'Waiting for Godot' == A reference to the absurdist play 'Waiting for Godot'. Why is this reference being made here???"
Page 11, Panel 1	The character Panacea returns from Asterix the Legionary
Page 15, Panel 3	Obelix's response to Panacea ("Wkrstksft") is exactly the same as his response in Page 3, Panel 10 of Asterix the Legionary
Page 16, Panel 2	Baccus: The Roman god of wine. Son of Jupiter and Semele. The Greek equivalent was Dionysus, son of Zeus and Semele.
Page 26, Panel 1	Ceterarum Rerum Prudens: Prudent in other things (Pliny the Younger???)
Page 29, Panel 3	Graffiti on the pillar outside the tavern has "Romans Go Home" scrawled on it. A reference to Monty Python's 'Life of Brian'???
Page 29, Panel 6	Lagatoria Provincia: Provincial Legate's Office ???
Page 31, Panel 8	La Donna E Mobile: Can be translated as "women are fickle". Opera composed (1851) by Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)
Page 31, Panel 10	"Lost my little Dogmatix": We last saw Dogmatix in Page 24, Panel 8.
Page 32, Panel 6	Skivers: Informal for a person who is absent from work without permission.
Page 33, Panel 2	Convenience: A public toilet.
Page 33, Panel 3	Yobbos: A slang term for an uncouth blue collar individual or thug.
Page 39, Panel 2	"Tell the Roman politely..." = A reference to Asterix the Legionary
Page 39, Panel 9	Quis, Quid, Ubi, Quibus, Auxilis, Cur, Quomodo, Quando: Who, what, where, with what, why, how, when? (in that order)
Page 42, Panel 8	The statuette is an obvious reference to the Oscars.
Page 42, Panel 10	When did women first win Oscars???
Page 44, Panel 6	Quid Novi: Whats new; And looks like Dogmatix has done what his master steadfastly refuses to do - get "married".

Table 31.2. Asterix and the Actress - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Obeliscoidix	A parasite, often called a rabbit stomach worm, found in many species of rabbits and hares throughout much of Mexico, Canada, and the United States.
Astronomix	Astronomy (Greek: astronomia = astron + nomos, literally, "law of the stars"). The scientific study of the universe, including the solar system, stars and galaxies.
Bogus Genius	Self explanatory.
Tremensdelirius	Delerium Tremens: Delerium from alcohol withdrawal. See Asterix and Caesar's Gift
Vanilla	Obelix's mother.

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Latraviata	La Traviata, an opera by Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)
Fastandfurious	Fast and furious.
Soporific	Something that induces sleep. Panacea's father.
Sarsaparilla	A perennial trailing vine with prickly stems native to tropical America and the West Indies. Its name comes from the Spanish words sarza for "shrub" and parilla for "little vine." Its roots, which are used in herbology, burrow deeply into the ground, while its vines are avid climbers.
Gymnasticapparatus	Gymnastic Apparatus.
Coughlinctus	Cough Linctus: Cough medication.

Chapter 32. Asterix and the Class Act

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

A compilation of Asterix (and Obelix) short stories, that were previously published in the French magazine Pilote and some are new.

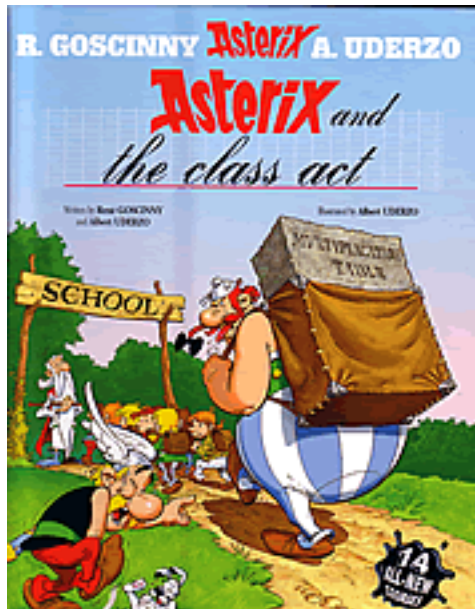


Table 32.1. Asterix and the Class Act - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 1, Panels 1-11	The Vitalstatistix press conference is a caricature of a Charles de Gaulle press conference.
Page 3, Panel 6	Misogynist: Someone who has an exaggerated aversion towards women
Page 4, Panel 4	The Battle of Gergovia took place in 52 BCE.
Page 6, Panel 1	"living the life of Rilix" = ???
Page 8, Panel 2	Astronomix is Asterix's father we were introduced to in Asterix and the Actress.
Page 8, Panel 3	Obeliscoidix is Obelix's father we were introduced to in Asterix and the Actress.
Page 9, Panel 1	This story continues the plot element of Asterix and Obelix being born on the same day that we encountered in Asterix and the Actress. We also learn that Asterix and Obelix are younger than Chief Vitalstatistics, Fulliautomatix, Unhygenix, Cacophonix and, of course, Geriatrix.
Page 9, Panel 6	"And 35 years later..." = This establishes the age of our heroes — they are 35 years old;

Page, Panel	Comment
	"two other firm friends" = Refers to Goscinny and Uderzo.
Page 11, Panel 2	Caesar is pointing towards the New World when he says "Are you quite sure there's nothing over there?".
Page 11, Panel 6	This panel lampoons all the stereotypes of the French — Be-goateed, beret wearing, baguette-eating Eiffel tower painters.
Page 12, Panel 11	"Dog biscuits had not yet been invented in 50 BC" = ???
Page 13, Panel 4	"Oh to be in Armorica now..." = A take-off on Robert Browning's poem (1845) 'Home-thoughts, from abroad'.
Page 15, Panel 8	"I am the emblem of the Gauls" = ???
Page 15, Panel 9	"Galli-narius Minus" = ???
Page 16, Panel 10	Apparently, Dogmatix can speak the language of the birds.
Page 21, Panel 3	Kismet = Destiny or fate.
Page 27, Panel 2	This drawing is done in Walt Disney style.
Page 27, Panels 4-10	This drawing is done in Peanuts style.
Page 28, Panels 2-6	This drawing is done in Flash Gordon style.
Page 28, Panel 7	Sycophant: a person who tries to please someone in order to gain a personal advantage; Cinedological: ???; Necromantic: Magically calling up the dead; Symbiosis: Mutual relationship between two species in which both benefit; Dehortation: Dissuasion or advice against something; Cretinoidal: Having to do with a deformed and mentally retarded person; Microcephaly: Having a small head; Phylacterio-logical: An amulet or reminder (from the Hebrew word for either of two small leather boxes, each containing strips of parchment inscribed with quotations from the Hebrew Scriptures, one of which is strapped to the forehead and the other to the left arm; traditionally worn by Jewish men during morning worship, except on the Sabbath and holidays.); Empiricist: Relating to, or resulting from, experience, or experiment; Delerium: A temporary state of mental confusion and fluctuating consciousness resulting from high fever, intoxication, shock, or other causes. It is characterized by anxiety, disorientation, hallucinations, delusions, and incoherent speech.
Page 29, Panels 2-5	Done in the psychedelic style of 'Yellow Submarine'.
Page 29, Panel 6	Plus-fours = Loosely tailored slacks cut 4 inches below the knee. They have been traditionally associated with sporting attire from the 1860s and onward, and are particularly associated with golf.
Page 32, Panel 6	RER = Something to do with the Parisian public transport system???
Page 33, Panel 6	"Carrier piegion tower" = A reference to the Eiffel tower.
Page 39, Panel 3	"Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori" = "it is sweet and appropriate to die for your country" or "it is sweet and fitting to die for the fatherland" (Horace in Odes iii 2.13)
Page 39, Panel 4	"Victrix causa diis placuit, sed victa catoni" = "The victorious cause pleased the gods, the defeated one pleased Cato" (Lucan, Pharsalia I, 118).
Page 39, Panel 5	"Nunc est bibendum" = now for drinks (Horace, Odes I.xxxvii.1)
Page 39, Panel 6	"Cur, quid quomodo" = ???

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 39, Panel 7	"Res, non verba" = "deeds, not words"
Page 42, Panel 5	"Beati pauperes spiritu" = "Lucky are those of a poor spirit" (Vulgate, Matthew 3:5)
Page 50, Panel 7	I am sure these are real-life colleagues of Goscinny and Uderzo. Anyone know their names???

Table 32.2. Asterix and the Class Act - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Semiautomatix	Fullyautomatix's father. I wonder if Fulliautomatix's grandfather is named Manuel?
Unhealthix	Unhealthy. Unhygenix's father.
Chanticleerix	???
Henna	A coloring agent made from the green leaves of a henna plant which, when mixed with ingredients like tea, coffee, cloves, or tamarind, forms a paste.
Partipolitix	Party politics.
Pierre Decoubertix	Pierre Decoubertix. A reference to Pierre de Coubert (1883 - 1937), a French pedagogue and historian, best known as the founder of the modern Olympic games.
Inglorious Pithecanthropus	Inglorious: Deserving or bringing disgrace or shame; Pithecanthropus: Pithecanthropus erectus was the name first given to the Homo erectus specimen, also known as "Java Man", by its discoverer Eugene Dubois. The word "pithecanthropos" was derived from Greek roots and means ape man.
Civilservix	Civil Service: The entire body of those employed in the civil administration of a country at a local or national level. Military and elected officials are technically excluded from the term.

Chapter 33. Asterix and the Falling Sky

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

Two rival outer space alien ships appear above the Gaulish village. The evil aliens Nagma want to know the secret of the great weapon the Gauls have, which is "known throughout the universe", in order to conquer more planets. However a Tadsilvian called Toon comes to the village with the mission to destroy the weapon.



A break with the more or less historical setting in previous albums. The aliens are styled on the Walt Disney and Marvel Comics superheroes of the American comic book style on one side, and futuristic robot and insect-like Japanese manga style on the other. Arguably, the most politically controversial Asterix book. The book caused a controversy when it was released. It was perceived as having an anti-Bush (, George W.) and anti-American message possibly because it was released in the year following the controversial invasion of Iraq by America for supposed possession of weapons of mass destruction.

Table 33.1. Asterix and the Falling Sky - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 0, Panel 0	Dedication to Bruno Uderzo. This is probably the only Asterix book dedicated to someone.
Page 2, Panel 10	Notice Dogmatix looking at the cockerel. See Asterix and the Class Act
Page 6, Panel 5	Tadsilweny: An anagram of 'Walt Disney'
Page 6, Panel 6	"Shrinking violet" = (informal) A shy or retiring person. (alt.) A reference to the DC comic book Superhero of the same name.
Page 6, Panel 8	"Take the Mickey" = To tease, to ridicule. Also shortened to take the mick. An abbreviated form of the Cockney rhyming slang take the mickey bliss, meaning 'take the piss'. The usage

Page, Panel	Comment
	here is also a reference to Mickey Mouse — a popular character of Walt Disney.
Page 7, Panel 1	Superclone = A caricature of Superman. Interestingly, in the case of Superman, his super abilities come from Earth's gravity being weaker than on Krypton. In the case of Superclone, Earth's gravity is said to be stronger than on Tadsilweny. The face is a caricature of Arnold Schwarzenegger known for his action films.
Page 8, Panel 4	"Reclone him,...., as either a spider or a bat superclone" = A reference to two other popular superheroes — Spiderman and Batman.
Page 8, Panel 6	"You able do me little favour" = I think this pidgin English is intentional. Obelix never speaks in such ungrammatical tongue usually.
Page 8, Panel 6	"Big girl's tunica" = Even though this is footnoted, it is not really clear what this means. ???
Page 9, Panel 6	"If I had a hammer" = The Hammer Song (words and music by Lee Hays and Pete Seeger)
Page 13, Panel 2	"all spaced out" = Spaced Out is a little-known Canadian animated series about the Martins — a family from Earth living in a space station-clad neighbourhood, which is built and owned by a mysterious "Krach" corporation. The whole station is a gigantic experiment made by Krach — its inhabitants are isolated from the outside world and are from time to time a unconscious subject of corporation's marketing; "a galaxy of 50 stars" = a reference to the 50 stars in the US flag representing the 50 states.
Page 13, Panel 4	"Galactic council of the wise" = A reference to the United Nations.
Page 13, Panel 4	"the Nagmas" = An anagram of 'Mangas'. Manga (literally meaning 'Involuntary sketches') is the Japanese term for 'comic book' or graphic novel.
Page 17, Panel 1	"planet Gmana" = Another anagram of 'Manga'.
Page 22, Panel 9	Notice the Mickey Mouse-ears on the Cyberats.
Page 34, Panel 2	"Nihil conveniens decretis eius" = ???
Page 36, Panel 1	"Anacreontic" = Celebrating love and drinking. After Anacreon, a Greek poet in the 6th century BCE, noted for his songs in praise of love and wine. The US national anthem 'The Star-Spangled Banner' is set to the tune of the English song 'To Anacreon in Heaven' which was the 'constitutional song' of the Anacreontic Society, a gentlemen's music club in London.
Page 44, Panel 5	"Doo aah diddy diddy diddy doo" = Reference to the song "Doo aah diddy diddy" originally performed by Manfred Mann.

Table 33.2. Asterix and the Falling Sky - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Polyantus	Primula polyantha — florists' primroses; considered a complex hybrid derived from oxlip, cowslip, and common primrose.
Toon	A popular shortening of the word Cartoon.
Hubs	An anagram of Bush.

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Akoaotaki	Anagram of Takao Aoki, author and creator of the Manga "Beyblade".

Part III. Spinoff Annotations

In addition to the popular books, throughout the life of the Asterix canon there have been numerous spinoffs. Only some of these spinoffs have been translated into English and most of these are quite rare to find. There are poster books and there are pull-out books. There are books based on movies based on books. The authors have only listed and annotated the ones they have in their possession. If you have more information on others not listed here, please get in touch with the authors.

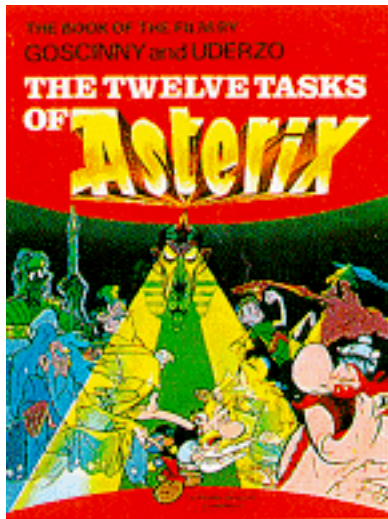
Chapter 1. The Twelve Tasks of Asterix

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
Copyright © 1976 Goscinny & Uderzo

Abstract

Caesar challenges the Gauls to perform twelve difficult tasks (a la Hercules) to prove that they are in fact Gods. Asterix & Obelix come forth to conquer all obstacles set before them...



This is a bit different. It's a book from the movie. Several of the books were made into movies (Asterix and Cleopatra was pretty decent, but this went the other way). It has pictures, but only as illustrations (drawn, not from the movie), and it has a heck of a lot more text. It doesn't seem to be written by Goscinny and Uderzo, nor translated by Bell and Hockridge. Not much to do here, it's written to a lower level. All of it is non-canonical. Harry Fluks has version that is by G&U, and consists of a newspaper strip transformed to album format. I don't think it exists as an English print. Wah! Despite the strange language of this book, Glen Koorey says that his book says that it was, indeed, translated by Bell and Hockridge.

Table I.1. The Twelve Tasks of Asterix - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 6	The second time we see a naked female breast in Asterix books.
Page 7	All the Hercules stuff is true to myth.
Page 28-29	A strange anachronism. The train is the Paris Metro. What does the PZM stand for ???
Page 44	Ave Caesar! Morituri... = Hail Caesar! We who are about to die salute you
Page 52	Out of place with the series in general, where, of course, Caesar continues to try to torment the Gauls (and vice versa).

Table I.2. The Twelve Tasks of Asterix - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Caius Tiddlus	Tiddly: British for drunk, tipsy
Asbestos	Fire-retardant cancerous material
Verses	Divisions in a poem
Cylindric	Having a cylindrical shape (like a roll of paper)
Iris	The colored portion of the eye
Calorifix	Calorific: something that generates heat

Chapter 2. Asterix versus Caesar

Pierre Tchernia

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
Copyright © 1985 Pierre Tchernia

Abstract

This is another book based on a film. The film script, by Pierre Tchernia, is adapted from the books Asterix the Gladiator and Asterix the Legionary. They certainly did a better job on this one than Studio Idefix did on The Twelve Tasks of Asterix. This one follows the format of the other with lots of text, but the pictures are actual shots from the movie. Bell and Hockridge did the translation on this one. All non-canonical again, and not much to do

R. GOSCINNY - A. UDERZO

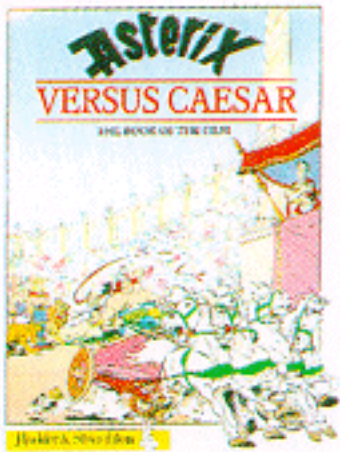


Table 2.1. Asterix versus Caesar - Annotations

Page, Panel	Comment
Page 16	Veni, vidi, non vici: I came, I saw, I didn't conquer
Page 34	EEC: European Economic Community

Table 2.2. Asterix versus Caesar - Names

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Caius Flabius Obtus	Flabby: fat; obtuse: dull. Caius Fatuous from Asterix the Gladiator.
Incautius	Incautious
Panacea	Same as Asterix the Legionary

Name (in order of appearance)	Comment
Tragicomix	Same as Asterix the Legionary
Dramatix	Dramatic
Terminus	An end
Dubius Status	Same as in Asterix the Legionary
Paytoomuchtax	Pay too much tax. Selective employment tax from Asterix the Legionary
Pecadillo el Bonafidez	Peccadillo: a minor sin; bona fides: proof of good faith or just identification
Garulus Rumpus	Garrulous: talks too much; rumpus: noisy disturbance
Suspicius	Suspicious. Ekonomikrisis from Asterix the gladiator.

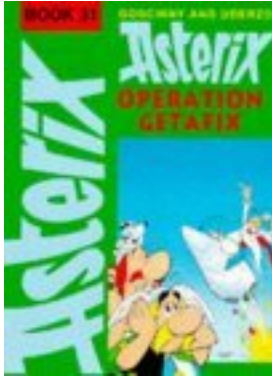
Chapter 3. Operation Getafix

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
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Abstract

The scenario is adapted from Asterix and the Soothsayer and Asterix and the Big Fight. The layout is comparable to Asterix versus Caesar.



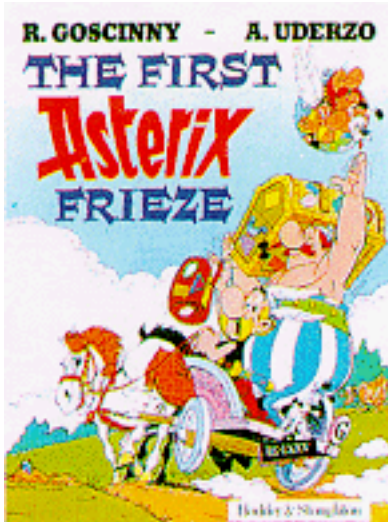
Chapter 4. The First Asterix Frieze

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
Copyright © 1985 Uderzo

Abstract

A book of pop-ups or pullouts (Friezes) featuring our favorite Gauls.



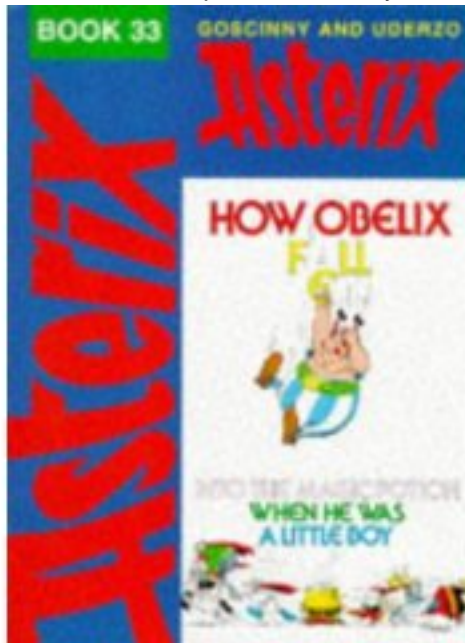
Chapter 5. How Obelix fell into the Magic Potion when he was a little boy

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
Copyright © 19XX Uderzo

Abstract

From the Preface: "This text was written by Rene Goscinny for Pilote number 291. It appeared the 20th of May 1965. Goscinny wrote a text describing how the little Obelix fell into the druid's cauldron of Magic Potion for which I [= Uderzo] made three small drawings. Asterix was in it's sixth year, and that is also approximately how old Obelix is in this story. Because so many readers never had the chance to read this earlier, we decided to republish the story in the form of an album with a few more illustrations."



This is ten or twenty lines of text, double page and one large drawing.

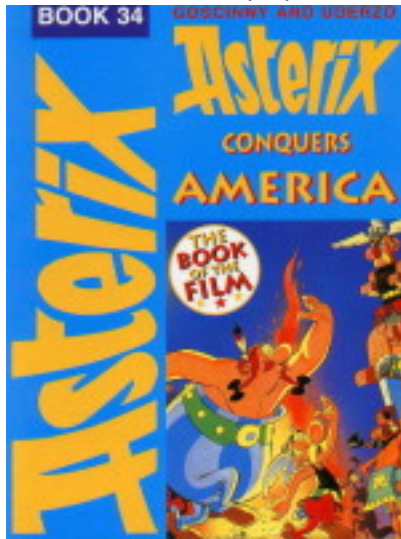
Chapter 6. Asterix Conquers America

Rene Goscinny
Albert Uderzo

English Translations: Anthea Bell & Derek Hockridge
Copyright © 1995 Uderzo

Abstract

During a brawl in their village, the magic potion that gives the heroes Asterix and Obelix their superhuman power tips over. Before the druid Getafix can make another brew, the Romans capture him and catapult him into space from their galley at the edge of the world. They believe the earth is flat. Asterix and Obelix set out after Getafix. They end up in America, where the natives, who already hold Getafix prisoner, capture Asterix. The medicine man has designs on their magic potion and Getafix has to use every trick in the book to protect its secret formula. The three Gauls finally escape from the Indians and on their return home find their village burned to the ground and its inhabitants abducted. Our heroes free their friends, tear the Roman camp apart and send Caesar on his merry way.



Part IV. Appendix

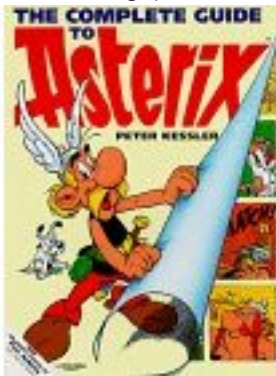
Chapter 1. Notes on The Complete Guide to Asterix

Peter Kessler

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Abstract

A great book and should be on the shelves of any true Asterix fan. It is full of additional information and background details on the Asterix series and the authors (and even a little bit about Anthea Bell and Derek Hockridge).



The following main subjects are covered in the book:

- Chapter 1: the origin of Asterix
- Chapter 2: Asterix's development
- Chapter 3: Translating Asterix
- Chapter 4: Comedy in Asterix
- Bonus Section 1: Spot the authors
- Bonus Section 2: A soft spot for chickens
- Bonus Section 3: What really goes into the magic potion?
- Bonus Section 4: Nobody's perfect
- Glossary of Latin phrases in Asterix

Some of the other things addressed in the Guide includes:

- The village with no name

- Asterix book league table (figures of sales)
- Asterix languages (published)
- How to create an Asterix book
- The big noses
- Detail on lesser characters

Chapter 2. Contributors to the Asterix Annotations

The following people, in no particular order, have contributed a sizable number of annotations / corrections.

Contributors to Version 1

- Chris Adams
- Uncle Alias
- P. Atcliffe
- Rich Bellacera
- Ether Breather
- Jeff Bluf
- David Cornfield
- Mark-Jason Dominus
- Sergio Gelato
- Harry Fluks
- Robert S. Hill
- Andrew Hackard
- R. J. Johnston
- Pletinckx Jurgen
- Willian Kaufman
- Jonathan Miller
- Daniel Mitchell
- Chip Olson
- Simone Oke
- Hannu Pajunen
- Prabhakar Ragde

- David Shairer

Contributors to Version 2 through 4

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- Alessandro Ponti
- Alix Sensale
- Andrew Lawston
- Anish Bhatt
- Annabel Smyth
- Anton Sherwood
- Antonios Stavropoulos-Kalingoglou
- Arvind Raghavan
- Bart Luttkhuis
- Brian Minsker
- C Penguin
- Chris Adams
- Christine Semra
- Colin de Klern
- Criag Jackson
- Cynthia Hedad
- Dan Russel
- Dewi Williams
- Glen Koorey
- Graeme Cree
- Harish Shivaram
- Herman Van Keer

- Heyns van der Merwe
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- Ivo Roex
- J. Robertson
- Janus Katsman
- Jason Lady
- Javier Marques
- Jeroen Nijhof
- John Howes
- Kaushik Shankar
- Kerry Webb
- Lars Jacobsen
- Louisa Radice
- Lyall Dawson
- M.P. Davis
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- Marc Donovan
- Marcus Mazzoni
- Michael B. Caffrey
- Morgan Sonderegger
- Natasha Chanda Acharya
- Nate Bracy
- Paul Andinach
- Paul McGrory
- Paula Fleming
- Peter Ansoff
- Peter Roen

Contributors to the Asterix Annotations

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- Philip Newton
- Pratik Thakore
- Rahul Siddharthan
- Raven Morris
- Richard Bouwland
- Richard Snyder
- Robin Andrews
- Steve Baird
- Susan Armstrong
- Ted Wright
- Tom McCarthy
- V. Ashok
- Vidar Svendsen
- Vincent Oberheim
- Will Williams
- jforeit@patriot.net

Chapter 3. Asterix Annotations in other languages

The Asterix annotations is hardly unique. Others have extensively annotated Asterix books in other languages. Here are a few worth noting.

- Stéphane Rivière's *Astérix Pages* [<http://www.mage.fst.uha.fr/asterix/asterix.html>] (in French)
- Marco Muetz's *Asterix Lexicon* [<http://www.comedix.de/>] (in German)
- Hans Selles's *Dutch Annotations* [<http://members.tripod.lycos.nl/hselles/>]
- Lars Jacobsen's *Danish Annotations* [<http://www.asterixfodnoter.dk/>]
- The *Official Asterix Site* [<http://www.asterix.tm.fr/>] is pretty cool and has extensive annotations in English and German.

Chapter 4. Other Interesting Links

- Julius Caesar's *Gallic Wars* [<http://classics.mit.edu/Caesar/gallic.html>]
- *Who was Who in Roman Times* [<http://www.romansonline.com/Index.asp>]
- *Illustrated History of the Roman Empire* [<http://www.roman-empire.net/>]
- *The History of Druids and Druidery* [http://www.druidorder.demon.co.uk/druid_history.htm]
- *Ancient Celtic solar/lunar ritual calendar* [<http://technovate.org/web/coligny.htm>]

Chapter 5. Add to Asterix Annotations

The Asterix Annotations is a collaborative effort of almost a hundred avid Asterix fans. The Annotations is the result of hundreds of hours of effort from dedicated fans. However, as old Pegleg the pirate says, *Errare Humanum Est*. The editors of the Annotations would like your help in keeping them accurate and humorous. If you have additions or corrections to the Asterix Annotations, please email them to thaths@openscroll.org [mailto:thaths@openscroll.org].

Chapter 6. Frequently Asked Questions about the Asterix Annotations

What are these Annotations anyway?

The Asterix Annotations is a guide to hidden and non-obvious humour in the Asterix comics.

The Asterix comics, originally in French, are extremely popular in Europe. The Asterix comics have been translated into languages from Afrikaans to Welsh. All the books have been translated into English by the brilliant Anthea Bell and Derek Hockridge. Some of the books have also been translated into American English but were not as popular as the English ones. The Annotations are for the English and American translations.

Where can I get the latest version of the Annotations?

The latest version of The Asterix Annotations are available at the Asterix Annotations web site at <http://asterix.openscroll.org/>.

Reading things on the computer screens is making me go blind. Is there a printable version of the Annotations?

A PDF version of the Annotations is available at <http://asterix.openscroll.org/annotations.pdf>. If you do not mind the downing of a few trees in printing a paper version of the Annotations, you can download and print the PDF version with pretty formatting. Besides, Getafix will probably be along shortly anyway helping trees grow instantaneously with his magic potion induced seeds.

Is there an online forum to discuss Asterix with other comic book fans?

The only such forum that this author is aware of is the *Asterix Mailing List* [<http://stp.ling.uu.se/mailman/listinfo/asterix>] started by six enthusiastic Dutch collectors of Asterix. The purpose of the mailing list is to discuss subjects that are related to Asterix and to give Asterix collectors a chance of finding fellow collectors which might be interested in exchanging Asterix albums and other Asterix objects. The preferred language on the mailing list is English. However, if you feel that your active knowledge of English is not sufficient you can also use French.

Where can I buy Asterix books in <language>

Asterix Around the World [<http://www.asterix-obelix.nl/bookshop.htm>] is a good source.

Is there an official Asterix web site?

The Official Asterix Site [<http://gb.asterix.com/index.html>] is available in French, English, German, Dutch and Spanish.

Chapter 7. Asterix Annotations in other formats

The Asterix annotations is available in several formats for your reading and printing convenience.

Table 7.1. Asterix Annotations - Available Formats

Format	Link
HTML	<i>The Asterix Annotations web site</i> [http://asterix.openscroll.org/]
PDF	<i>The Asterix Annotations printable PDF</i> [http://asterix.openscroll.org/annotations.pdf]
DocBook XML	<i>The Asterix Annotations DocBook source</i> [http://asterix.openscroll.org/annotations-docbook.tgz]

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