

BOOK 4

GOSCINNY AND UDERZO

Asterix

AND
CLEOPATRA



THE GREATEST STORY EVER DRAWN

14 LITRES OF INDIAN INK, 30 BRUSHES,
62 PENCILS, 1 HARD PENCIL, 27 ERASERS,
1984 SHEETS OF PAPER, 16 TYPEWRITER
RIBBONS, 2 TYPEWRITERS, 366 PINTS OF
BEER WENT INTO ITS CREATION

HODDER DARGAUD

ALEXANDRIA, CAPITAL OF EGYPT. THE PALACE OF THE FABULOUS QUEEN CLEOPATRA, OF WHOM IT WAS SAID THAT IF HER NOSE HAD BEEN SHORTER IT WOULD HAVE CHANGED THE WHOLE COURSE OF HISTORY...



I, CLEOPATRA, WILL PROVE TO YOU, O CAESAR, THAT MY PEOPLE ARE AS BRILLIANT AS EVER! IN THREE MONTHS' TIME I'LL HAVE A MAGNIFICENT PALACE BUILT HERE FOR YOU IN ALEXANDRIA!













NEXT MORNING ...



AS SOON AS WE
LAND I'LL TAKE YOU
TO THE PALACE
TO MEET THE
QUEEN

AND IN HER PALACE
THE LUXURY-LOVING
CLEOPATRA IS SITTING
DOWN TO HER FAVOURITE
SNACK - PEARLS
DISSOLVED IN VINEGAR



WHERE ARE
THE PEARL
TONGS, FOR
OSIRIS'S SAKE?

HERE, TASTER!
GET ON WITH
YOUR JOB!



VERY WELL,
O QUEEN!

THE GREEDY
PIG! SHE'S
TAKEN FOUR
PEARLS
AGAIN!

UGH! I DO HATE
TOO MUCH PEARL IN
MY VINEGAR!



EDIFIS THE
ARCHITECT CRAVES
THE HONOUR OF
AN AUDIENCE!

SHOW HIM IN...



MEET MY
FRIENDS FROM
GAUL, O QUEEN -
A POWERFUL MAGICIAN
AND TWO BRAVE
WARRIORS WHO HAVE
COME TO HELP ME...

DOGMAFIX!

GRROARRR!



VERY WELL, BUT GET ON WITH IT!
THERE ISN'T MUCH TIME LEFT,
AND CAESAR KEEPS NEEDLING
ME. IF YOU SUCCEED THERE'LL
BE GOLD ALL ROUND. IF NOT -
THE CROCODILES!



AND I WARN
YOU, EDIFIS, YOUR
RIVAL ARTIFIS IS
NOT PLEASED THAT
I CHOSE YOU AND
NOT HIM TO BUILD
CAESAR'S
PALACE. HE'D
LOVE TO SEE YOU
END UP INSIDE
A CROCODILE.
YOU MAY
GO

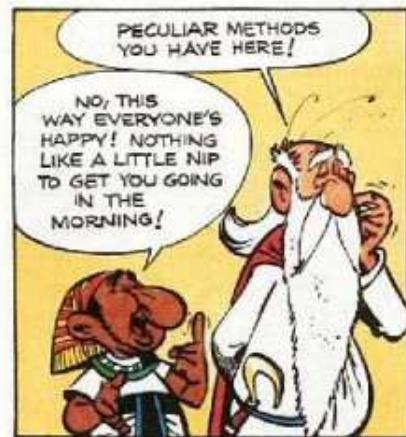
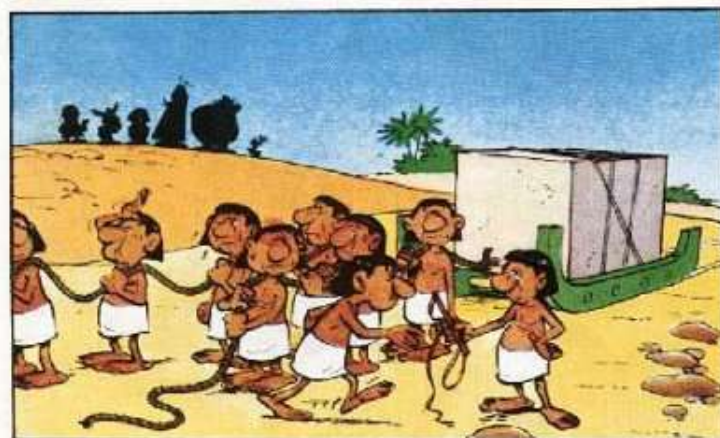


SHE LOOKS
BAD TEMPERED,
BUT SHE HAS
A PRETTY
NOSE...

VERY
PRETTY!







DURING THE LENTIL-BREAK THE LABOURERS HAVE AN UNEXPECTED VISITOR...



IT A VERY POPULAR ANCIENT EGYPTIAN DISH



...WHOSE REMARKS ARE EVIDENTLY OF ABSORBING INTEREST



AND AT THE END OF THE LENTIL BREAK...



...THE LABOURER'S MAKE IT PERFECTLY CLEAR...



...THAT THEY ARE NOT GOING BACK TO WORK



MASTER! THE LABOURERS WON'T GO ON WITH THE JOB! I THINK SOMEONE'S BEEN STIRRING THEM UP AGAINST YOU!



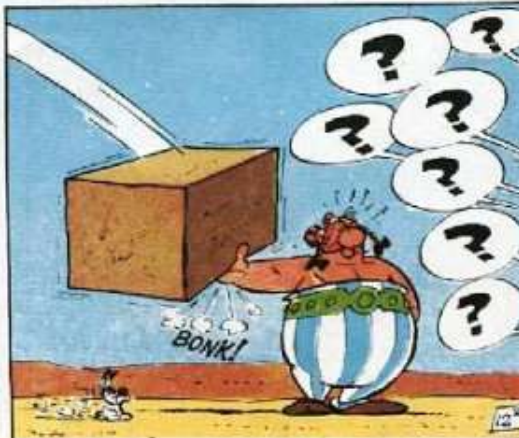
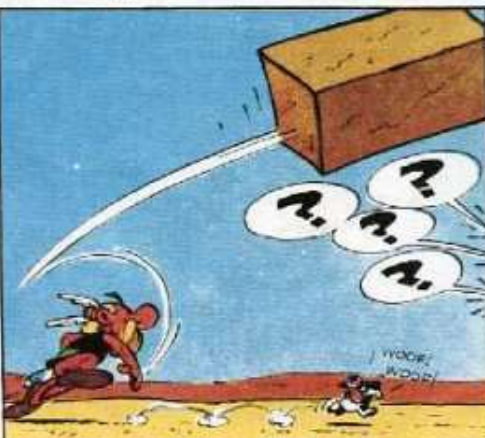
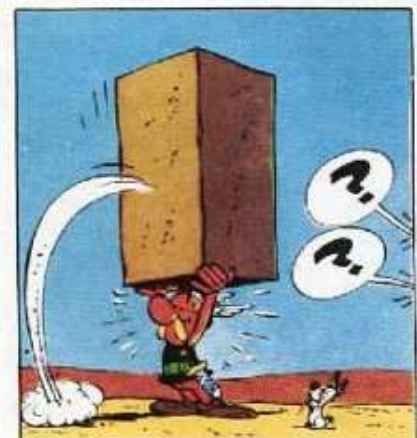
ALL THESE WORRIES ARE POSITIVELY BLOOD-CURDLING! BY THE TIME THE CROCODILES GET ME I'LL BE QUITE UNEATABLE!

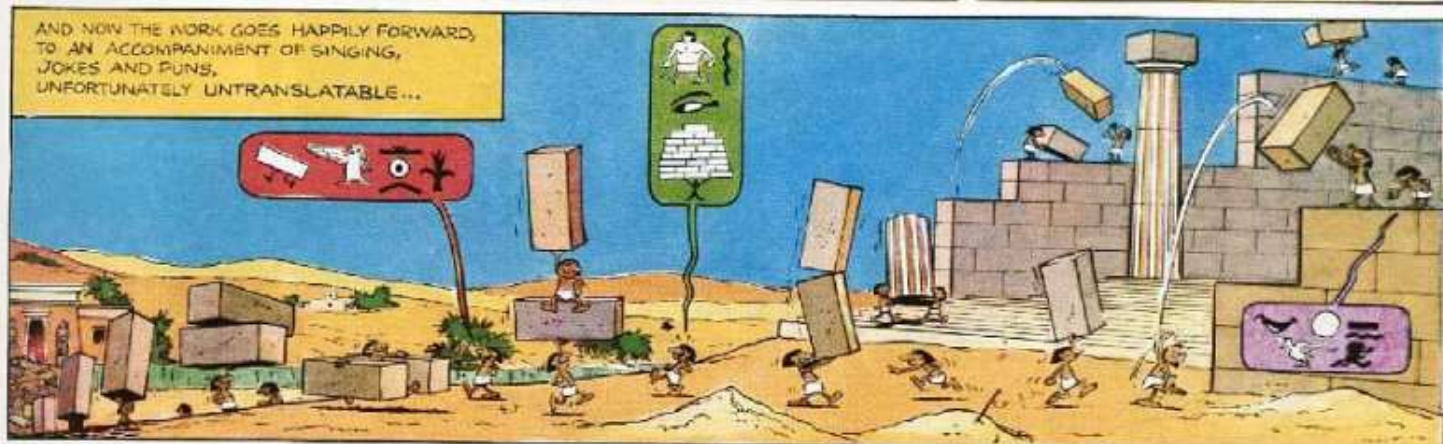


ALL THE BETTER! ARE YOU SO KEEN TO MAKE THEM A GOOD MEAL?

BUT THOSE ARE SACRED CROCODILES! YOU CAN'T JUST FEED THEM ANY OLD THING!

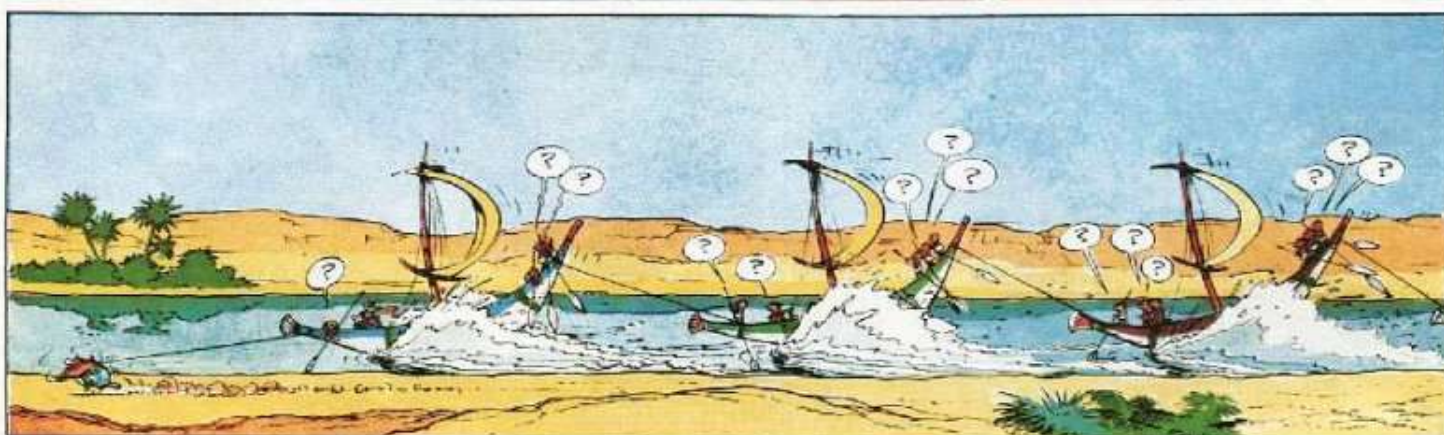


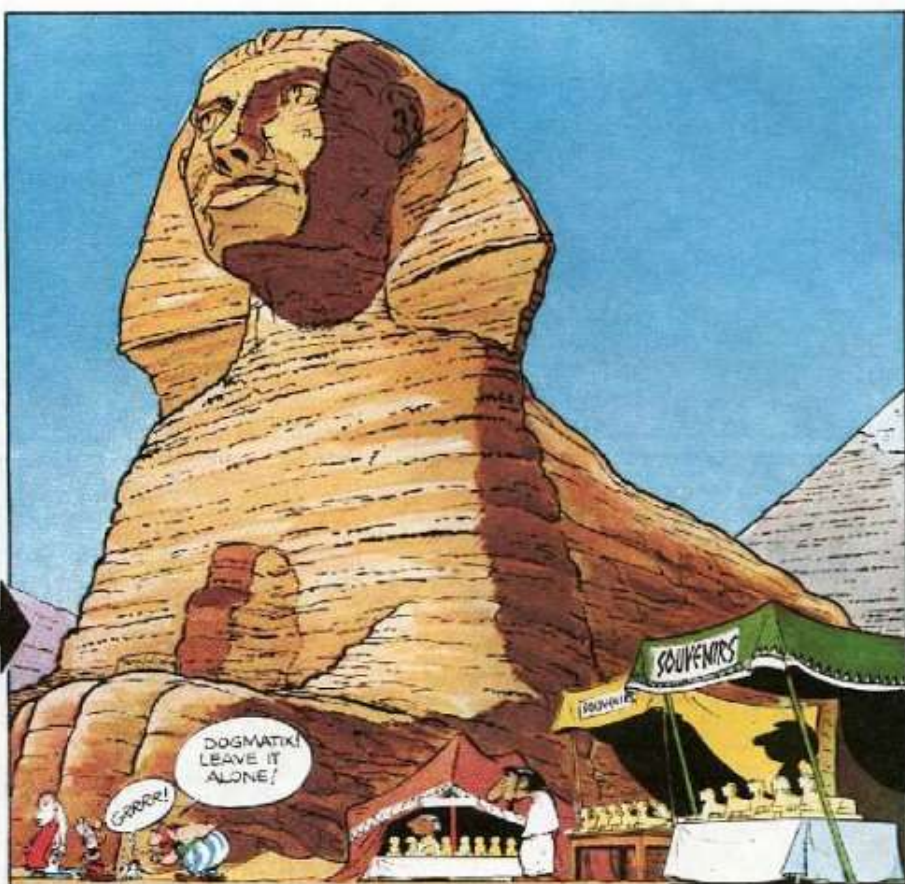














SO NOW YOU KNOW WHY THE SPHINX HAS NO NOSE. WHICH IS A PITY, FOR THE SPHINX'S NOSE, LOST TO THIS DAY, WAS A VERY FINE SPECIMEN OF A NOSE, IF NOT SO BEAUTIFUL AS CLEOPATRA'S, WHICH, AS WE BELIEVE WE MENTIONED BEFORE, WAS A VERY PRETTY NOSE INDEED







INSIDE THE PYRAMID...

MY POWERS ARE NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO GET US OUT OF HERE... I AM VERY MUCH AFRAID THIS MAY BE THE END OF OUR ADVENTURES, BY BELENOS!

I'M ONLY SORRY FOR EDIFIS... WITHOUT OUR HELP HE'LL END UP INSIDE A CROCODILE



WELL, I'M SORRY FOR MY POOR LITTLE DOGMATIX... AREN'T I DOGMATIX?

DOGMATIX?!



YES, DOGMATIX! WHAT ABOUT IT? YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BE CROSS WITH ME FOR BRINGING HIM? ANYWAY, I DIDN'T BRING HIM, HE CAME ALL BY HIMSELF!



EXACTLY! HE'S FOUND US THANKS TO HIS NOSE... IN WHICH CASE HE CAN FIND HIS WAY BACK, AGAIN AND SHOW US THE WAY OUT!

BY BELENOS, YOU'RE RIGHT!



DOGMATIX, IF YOU HELP US OUT OF HERE YOU'LL GET A VERY BIG BONE OUTSIDE!



YOU'LL GET TWO BIG BONES!



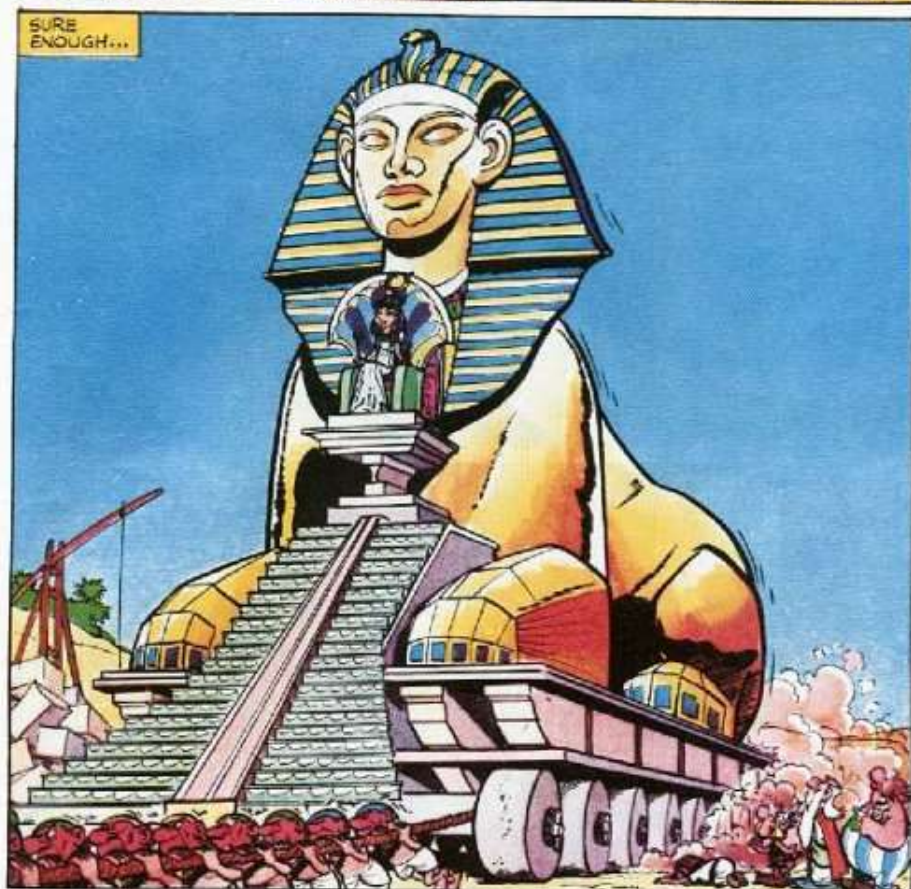
HEAPS OF BIG BONES!



OBELIX, I APOLOGIZE! YOU WERE QUITE RIGHT TO BRING YOUR DOGGIE!

SOMETIMES I FEEL HE UNDERSTANDS EVERYTHING I SAY!





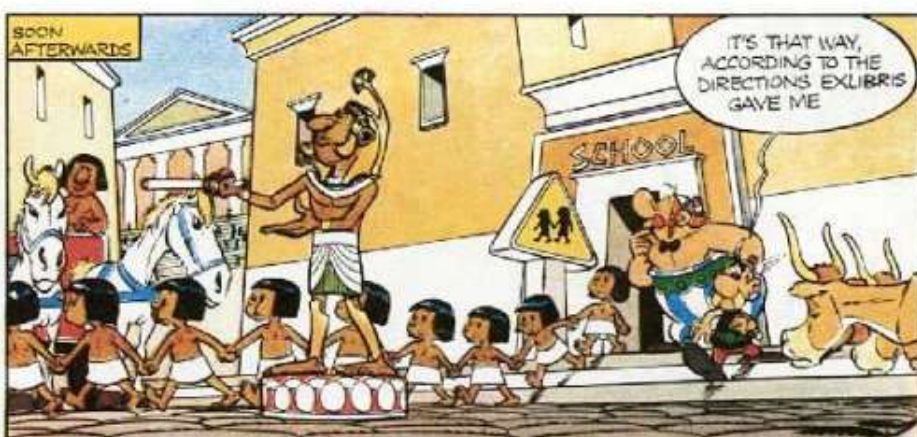


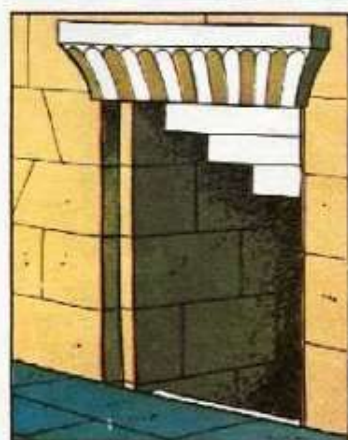










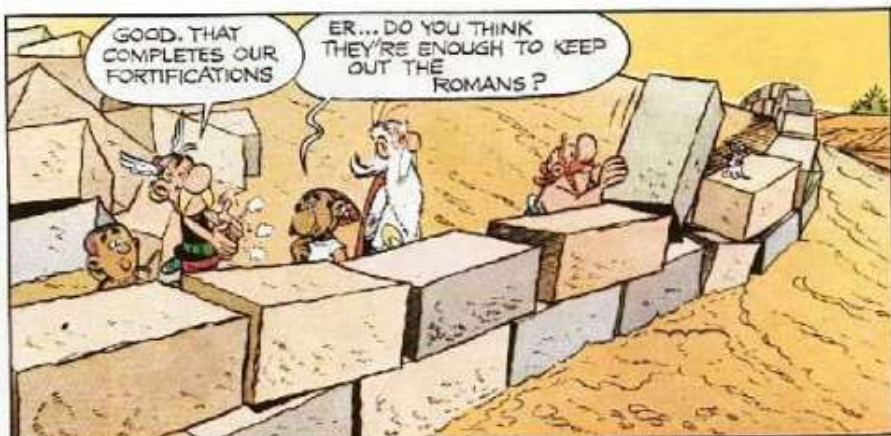






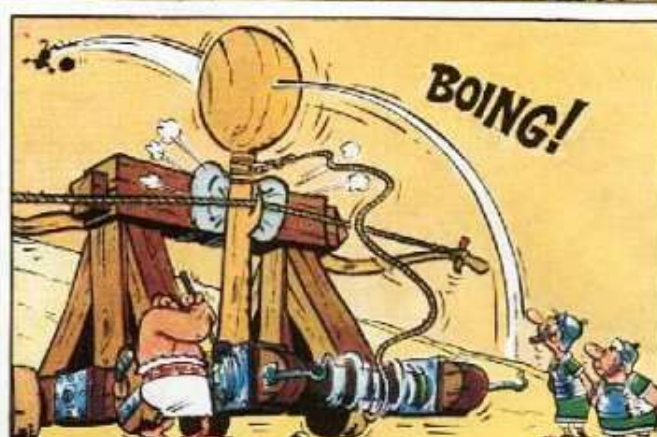












WATCH OUT! ONE OF THE
BESIEGED MEN IS TRYING
TO BREAK IN AGAIN!



HERE YOU ARE,
OBELIX!
DOGMATIX HAS
JUST GOT BACK!
HE DID HIS JOB
PERFECTLY!

THERE YOU
ARE! YOU SEE?

LET'S HOPE
THE QUEEN
ACTS QUICKLY.
THE ROMAN
MISSILES ARE
DESTROYING
THE PALACE!



SURE ENOUGH, IN THE CAMP
OF THE BESIEGING ARMY...

EXCELLENT,
OPERACHORUS,
EXCELLENT!

THERE
YOU ARE,
CAESAR!
EVEN IF WE
DON'T CAPTURE
THEM THE
PALACE WILL
BE DESTROYED
JUST THE
SAME!



AVE, CAESAR... ER...
SOMEONE WANTS TO
SPEAK TO YOU...

WHO IS IT?







NEXT DAY...

