In the year 50 BC, after a long struggle, the ancient Gauls had been conquered by the Romans.

Chiefs like Vercingetorix had to lay their arms at Caesar's feet...

Chief!

Peace reigns, disturbed only by occasional attacks by the Germans, speedily repulsed...

Get! Ve go!

All Gaul is occupied...

All? No one village still holds out stubbornly against the invaders, one small village surrounded by fortified Roman camps.

All efforts to subdue these proud Gauls have failed, and Caesar asks himself...

Quid?

And now we meet our hero, the warrior Asterix, just off hunting as usual.

Back soon, Asterix?

I'll be back for dinner, Obelix.

Here he comes!

We'll get him.

Ipso facto!

Sic!

Biff! Ow!

Bang! Ouch!

Accidence will happen...

Vae victis vae victis!

We decline!
And at the Roman camp of Compendium, in the tent of Centurion Crismus Bonus.

Ave Crismus Bonus! I'll go and inspect them.

Ave Julius Pompius! I'll go and inspect them.

Ave....

What happened, by all the gods? Were you attacked by superior numbers?

Superior numbers... Can't quite say...

There was one of them...

Not a very large one either!

By Jupiter! There must be some secret behind the superhuman strength of these Gauls!

Meanwhile...

Oh yes! I knocked four Romans out. Oh, good!

Want to help me eat my boar?

Just coming! I've got two more menhirs to deliver.
COME IN, OBELIX. IT'S DONE TO A TURN!

YUM, YUM, ASTERIX!

THE ROMANS WONT LIKE THIS. THEY'LL LAUNCH A NEW OFFENSIVE....

MUN!

SO LONG AS OUR DRUID GETAFIX KEEPS BREWING HIS MAGIC POTION, THE ROMANS CAN'T DO A THING.

LET'S GO AND SEE THE DRUID NOW!

HE'LL BE UP THAT TREE, CUTTING MISTLETOE WITH HIS GOLDEN SICKLE.

GETAFIX!

OW NO!

OHN DRUID!

YOU MADE ME JUMP! I'VE GONE AND CUT MYSELF WITH MY SICKLE.

SORRY....

THE TIME HAS COME FOR ME TO HAVE MY DOSE OF POTION....

OH, ALL RIGHT....

COME HOME WITH ME....
WHAT'S THE RECIPE, O DRUID?

The origin of this recipe is lost in the mists of time. It is handed down from druid to druid by word of mouth...

ALL I CAN REVEAL IS THAT THERE'S MISTLETOE AND LOBSTER IN IT....

THE LOBSTER IS OPTIONAL, BUT IT IMPROVES THE FLAVOUR!

CAN I HAVE SOME?

No, Obelix, you can not and well you know it!

YOU FELL INTO THE CAULDRON WHEN YOU WERE A BABY, AND IT HAD A PERMANENT EFFECT ON YOU. IT WOULD BE DANGEROUS FOR YOU TO DRINK ANY MORE!

THANKS, O DRUID!

IT'S NOT FAIR, BY BELÉNOS!

OW! OW! OW!

I'VE TOLD YOU BEFORE NOT TO SHAKE HANDS WITH ME WHEN YOU'VE JUST HAD YOUR POTION

HE'S RIGHT, I DON'T KNOW MY OWN STRENGTH!
WE'VE BEEN LYING SIEGE TO THESE GAULS FOR YEARS! THEY'VE GOT A NERVE! THIS MORNING'S
PROVOCATION IS GOING TOO FAR. ONE AGAINST FOUR IS NO JOKE! THEY'RE MAKING US
LOOK RIDICULOUS.

THERE'S SOME MYSTERY BEHIND THE STRENGTH OF THESE GAULS. WE MUST LEARN
THEIR SECRET.

YOU'RE RIGHT, MARCUS GINANTONICUS! WE MUST LEARN THEIR SECRET, AND FAST! CAESAR
HAS INDICATED HIS DISPLEASURE ALL THE WAY FROM ROME. WE NEED A SPY IN THE GAULS
VILLAGE. I WANT A VOLUNTEER!

AS THERE ARE SO MANY VOLUNTEERS, WE'LL HAVE TO PLAY
MUSICAL CHAIRS TO PICK THE SPY!

THIS ANCIENT ROMAN GAME IS
PLAYED WITH ONE LESS CHAIR THAN THERE ARE LEGIONARIES.....

...WHEN THE MUSIC STOPS......

...ALL THE PLAYERS SIT DOWN.
THE LEGIONARY WITHOUT
A CHAIR HAS LOST.

CALIGULA MINUS IS OUT!
I'LL ROAST YOU ALIVE IF YOU DON'T!

OM, ALL RIGHT, I'LL GO AND SPY ON THE GAULS!

GET HIM UP LIKE A GAUL!

MEANWHILE, IN THE GAULISH VILLAGE...

THOSE ROMANS HAVE KEPT QUIET TOO LONG! IT CAN'T LAST. BE ON YOUR GUARD—AND NEVER FORGET TO TAKE YOUR MAGIC POTION!

LONG LIVE OUR CHIEF VITAL-STATISTICS!

WHAT IS IT, OBELIX?

CHIEF!

WHAT'S IT?

THEY WON'T LET ME HAVE ANY POTION! IT'S NOT FAIR! I FEEL RATHER WEAK...

HELP! HERE COMES THE BARD CACOFONIX!

I WILL NOW GIVE YOU A SONG TO INSPIRE THE WARRIORS WITH COURAGE...

CAN'T STOP...

I'VE GOT NO END OF MENHIRS TO DELIVER... MAY THE SKY FALL ON MY HEAD! IT'S GETTING LATE

BARBARIANS! THEY DON'T APPRECIATE MY ART!
Caligula Minus is ready. Crismus Bonus, we've disguised him as a Gaul.
Let's have a look...

HA! HA! Ho! Ho! Ho! Put him in chains! HA! HA!

Whassup?

We're going to take you for a little walk near the Gaulish village. When the Gauls see you they'll come out and rescue you. Then you'll be able to infiltrate the village and learn their secret...

That's my plan. Well, what do you think?

I don't. I didn't understand a word of it.

Take him away!

Ouch! Careful! I'm a Roman! I'm only a pretend Gaul!

Soon afterwards...

Is this walk going on much longer?

Shut up, Caligula Minus!

And not far away...

I could just do with a nice fight...

Can't count on it — the Romans are getting cautious after all those knocks on the head...
WAIT A MINUTE!
HM?
SSH!
BUT...
CAN HEAR FOOTSTEPS—
CHAINS CLANKING—
SOMEONE WAILING!

LET'S HIDE AT THE TOP OF THE TREE! WE MAY SOON BE LOOSENING UP OUR MUSCLES!

By all the gods, I should have stayed at home! I never ought to have joined Caesar's legions in search of fame and fortune! My skin's not worth a bestertus and I'll never eat tapioca (I) like mother made again!

Will you shut up, Caligula minus! After all, when the hordes of Gauls attack us you're the only one they'll spare!

Sure enough, here are the hordes... Romans, with a Gaul as prisoner! We'll rescue him!
A GREAT VICTORY FOR US!

LET'S HOPE CALIGULA MIRUS GETS BACK IN ONE PIECE TO TELL US WHAT HE'S SEEN!

HE'S BETTER IF NOT I'LL HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY TO HIS ROMAN REMAINS!

ALEA JACTA EST!

PARDON?

MEANWHILE.......

THIS IS OUR VILLAGE, CALIGULININIX. YOU'LL BE SAFE HERE! IT'S FULL OF GAULES!

THAT'S A GREAT COMFORT.

ASTERIX AND OBELEX ARE BACK!

THEY'VE GOT SOMETHING WITH THEM!

SOMETHING VERY PECULIAR, BY BELEONIX!

COME AND MEET OUR CHIEF, VITALSTATIX.

BUT - BUT THEY'RE ALL ARMED!

YES, WE HAVE TO BE PREPARED TO FIGHT THE ROMANS AT THE DROP OF A HELMET.

A WISE PRECAUTION!
I DON'T WANT ANYTHING. IT'S MY FRIEND CALIGULIMINIX HE'D LIKE TO KNOW THE SECRET OF OUR SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH...

WELL, WHAT DO YOU WANT?

NOTHING DOING!

I HAVE TO GET HOME TO MY FAMILY... GO BACK TO WORK....

WHAT DO YOU DO ANYWAY?

ER... OH, I'M A GUIDE. I SHOW BARBARIAN TOURISTS AROUN THE NICE LIGURIA... LUNA... LUTETIA...

WELL, WHAT ABOUT IT, DRUID?

NO, NO, AND FOR THE THIRD TIME, NO!

OH, FINE! THAT'S JUST FINE! I QUITE SEE!

I'LL TRY GOING HOME ALL THE SAME. AND IF THE ROMANS TAKE ME TO SOME FOR THE LIONS TO EAT ME IN THE ORCUS, I'LL SAY IN BETWEEN EACH MOUTHFUL THE LIONS EAT, IT'S ALL GETAFIX THE DRUID'S FAULT! IT'S ALL GETAFIX THE DRUID'S FAULT!

OH, ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT!

COME BACK, CALIGULIMINIX!

I'LL SHOW YOU MY SECRET. I'LL EVEN LET YOU TASTE IT

IT'S A SECRET YOU CAN EAT?
COME ON, ALL OF YOU! OUR DRUID GETAPIK IS GOING TO MAKE THE MAGIC POTION!

ONE PORTION OF THIS POTION WILL GIVE YOU ALL THE STRENGTH YOU NEED TO GET HOME TO LUTETIA...

...BUT THE EFFECTS WILL WEAR OFF QUITE QUICKLY.

NEVER MIND, I'LL SEE ABOUT STEALING THAT CAULDRON!

HERE'S THE POTION!

THIS POTION... I... ER... I POIATE IT?

GLUG! GLUG! GLUG! GLUG! GLUG!

TASTES LIKE VEGETABLE SOUP!

IT COMES IN SEVERAL OTHER DELICIOUS FLAVOURS: SHRIMP, CHEESE OMELETTE, DUCK WITH ORANGE SAUCE AND VANILLA!

BUT I DON'T FEEL ANY DIFFERENT....

TRY LIFTING THAT ROCK OVER THERE!

THIS ONE? BUT I COULD NEVER...

HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!
THE POTION MAKES YOU VERY STRONG, BUT NOT INVELVERABLE... I DO HAVE A RECIPE FOR THAT, BUT THAT'S ANOTHER STORY......

COMING TENANZIX!

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO NOW?

DANCE!

TAKING PARTNERS!
SET TO THE RIGHT—
SET TO THE LEFT....

ONE LINE FORWARD,
The OTHER LINE BACK!

SET TO YOUR PARTNER,
SHAKE HIM BY THE HAND!

PULL HIS MOUSTACHE!

PULL HIS MOUSTACHE!

???
WHAT ON EARTH IS THIS?

ER... IT'S A DETACHABLE MOUSTACHE! THE LATEST THING FROM LUTETIA!

I DON'T THINK YOU'RE A GALAT AT ALL! I BELIEVE YOU'RE A ROMAN SPY!

GET HIM!

IT'S NO USE GOING AFTER HIM. HE'S JUST HAD THE POTION; HE'S PRACTICALLY INVINCIBLE!

SO HE'S ESCAPING, THANKS TO YOUR POTION!

BY MY GOLDEN SICKLE, IT WAS YOU WHO WANTED ME TO GIVE HIM SOME!

WELL, NEVER MIND! THAT SPY DIDN'T LEARN MUCH, AND THE EFFECTS OF THE POTION WILL SOON WEAR OFF!

MEANWHILE CONIGULA MINUS MAKES FULL SPEED FOR THE ROMAN CAMP OF COMPENDIUM

HALT! QUO VADIS, GALLI?
I KNOW THE GAULS’ SECRET! IT’S A MAGIC POTION!
WHERE IS IT?
HERE!

COME ALONG, CALIGULA MINUS! LET’S SEE THE EFFECT OF THIS POTION!

KNOCK THEM DOWN!
RIGHT!

HIM KNOCK US DOWN? HO! HO! HO!

I SHALL DIE LAUGHING, BY JUPITER!

AVE CALIGULA MINUS! MORTURI TE SALLANT!

BANG!

BIFF!

BOOM!

KERPONK!

THERE YOU ARE!
AMAZING!

THE TROUBLE IS, WE NEED TO STUDY THE INGREDIENTS OF THE POTION AND WE HAVEN’T GOT ANY OF IT HERE....

WELL NO.......

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS OPEN HIM UP....

TRY IT! COME ON, THEN, TRY IT!!!

IT’S A GOOD IDEA, MARCUS GINANTONICUS, ONLY CALIGULA MINUS WON’T CO-OPERATE
SO HOW LONG DO THE EFFECTS OF THIS POTION LAST?

DON'T KNOW...

PICK THAT ROCK UP, CALIGULA MINUS

?

THERE YOU ARE AGAIN!

EXCELLENT!

JUST KEEP HOLDING THAT ROCK, CALIGULA MINUS. WHEN IT GETS TOO HEAVY WE'LL KNOW THE POTION HAS WORN OFF.......

SEVERAL HOURS PASS BY...

WHEN SUDDENLY....

KERPLONK!

DON'T FEEL SO STRONG NOW, EH?

NO. IT'S WORN OFF!

HERE GOES!

BIFF!

BANG!

THOQ!

WHAM!

ER... LET'S ALL KEEP CALM. SHALL WE?

I MUST GET HOLD OF THE RECIPE FOR THE POTION WITH THAT RECIPE I CAN BECOME EMPEROR CRISMIUS CAESAR!
Soon afterwards in the Gaulish village.

I'm just going to pick some mistletoe in the forest.

No, Asterix, you stay here to guard the village. You get your strength from my potion, but your intelligence and cunning are all your own...

It would be a disaster for us to lose you! Besides, I'll be back soon.

Good...

Want we to come with you, Druid?

Oops!

Got him!

Soon afterwards.

We got the Druid, o Crismus Bonus!

Good work, Tullus Octopus!

As a reward you shall have 100 sestertii, and you can go to Rome on leave to see the circus!

Goody goody gumdrops! I'm going to the circus!

Now, Druid, you will tell me your secret!

That's what you think!
WE'LL TORTURE THE DRUID. THEN HE'LL TALK ALL RIGHT!

WELL ARE YOU TALKING?
NO, YOU ARE!

MUCH LATER... LOOK HERE, DRUID, THIS ISN'T FUNNY! WE'VE BEEN TORTURING YOU FOR HOURS, AND IT DOESN'T EVEN SEEM TO HURT; THIS WON'T HELP YOU!

DRUID, IF YOU TALK I CAN MAKE YOU RICH AND POWERFUL!

OH YES, IT IS! IT'LL HELP TO PASS THE TIME
NO!
NO!

IS THIS TORTURE GOING ON MUCH LONGER? I'VE GOT BETTER THINGS TO DO!

THIS DRUID'S MAGIC POWERS ARE TOO MUCH FOR ME—AND IS HE PIGHEADED?

MEANWHILE...

WHAT'S THE MATTER, ASTERIX? YOU LOOK WORRIED

OUR DRUID WENT TO THE FOREST TO PICK MISTLETOTO, AND HE HASN'T COME BACK...

I'M GOING TO LOOK FOR HIM!

WATCH OUT, ASTERIX! IT'S A LONG TIME SINCE YOU HAD ANY POTION!

HUM! I'M RELYING ON MY CUNNING TO FIND THE DRUID!
DRUID! O, DRUID!

HERE'S THE ROMAN ROAD... THERE'S A LOT OF TRAFFIC

YOU LOOK WORRIED, FRIEND...

MY GODS, WHAT AM I TO DO?

I'M AN OX DEALER, BUT IF I SELL MY OXEN I WON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO PULL MY CART, AND THEN HOW DO I GET HOME?

CHANGE YOUR JOB! BE A CART DEALER! YOU CAN SELL YOUR CART AND TAKE YOUR OXEN HOME!

WONDERFUL! MARVELLOUS! BRILLIANT IDEA!

HOW CAN I EVER REPAY YOU?

JUST TELL ME SOMETHING: DID YOU SEE A DRUID PASS THIS WAY GATHERING MISTLETOE?

NO, THERE WAS A DRUID, BUT SOME LEGIONARIES WERE TAKING HIM TO A STRING BAG...

TAKE ME TO COMPENDIUM!

BUT I'M NOT GOING THAT WAY!

COMPENDIUM IS THE BIGGEST CART MART HEREABOUTS, AND JUST NOW THE SECOND-HAND CART SHOW IS ON...

WHAT A STROKE, OR LUCK MEETING YOU!
WE'RE COMING TO COMPENDIUM NOW!

HEY - WHY ARE YOU HITTING THE HAY?

ER... OH, I WANT TO PLAY A PRACTICAL JOKE ON MY FRIENDS THE ROMANS.

HA! HA! THAT'S RICH! I LOVE PRACTICAL JOKES!

NO! NO! NO!

BY TOUTATIS, WHAT A PRIZE IDIOT OF AN OK DEALER!

HALT!

WHO GOES THERE?

WHAT HAVE YOU GOT IN THAT CART, FRIEND?

NOTHING! TEEHEE!

BY JUPITER, ARE YOU TRYING TO MAKE A FOOL OF ME?

HA! HA! HO! HO! HO!

THIS FOOL WILL SPOIL EVERYTHING!

WHAT'S UP, GRACCHUS SECTIUS?

THIS OK DEALER'S BEING FUNNY, CLAUDIUS QUINTILIUS!

LET HIM PASS. I KNOW HIM. HE'S QUITE HARMLESS!

PHEW!
Here we are in the camp. Are you going to play your practical joke now?

Soon afterwards, and now to find where they've got the Druid...

Let's have a look over here...

Good night!

Recline and have a bite to eat, O Marcus Nonantonicus, my trusty number two. I want a word with you!

Julius Caesar?

Precisely. Julius! The two of us will form a triumvirate!

I need you now, but afterwards I'll be the triumvirate on my own!

I'll have him thrown to the lions, and then I alone will be Caesar!
MOST INTERESTING, BUT IT TELLS ME NOTHING OF GETAPEX'S WHEREABOUTS.

HE MUST BE IN THAT HEAVILY GUARDED TENT...

THE BOLD APPROACH!

DO YOU MIND? I'VE JUST COME TO RESCUE GETAPEX THE DRUID. HE'S A FRIEND OF MINE.

?!!

THANKS!

DON'T LET HIM OUT! HE'S ONE OF THOSE INVINCIBLE CAUSUS... MAGIC POTION NARROWLY ESCAPED OUT OF HIS EARS! I'M GANGING FOR REINFORCEMENTS!

V... VERY WELL! BUT DON'T BE LONG, O CAUSUS FLEBITUS!

AND INSIDE THE TENT.

ASTERIX!

SIR! SIR!

BY BELISAMA, ASTERIX! WHAT MADNESS TO VENTURE RIGHT INTO THE JAWS OF THE ROMAN WOLF!

THE ROMANS CAN'T DO A THING AGAINST MY MAGIC POWERS!

EXACTLY! WE'LL HAVE SOME FUN WITH THEM! I'VE GOT A FEW IDEAS!
O CRISMSUS BONUS!

NOW WHAT?

WE'VE CAPTURED A GAUL IN THE DRUIDS TENT!
BUT WE NEED REINFORCEMENTS TO STOP THE PRISONER GETTING AWAY!!!

BY JUPITER! SOUND THE ALARM!

TANTANTARA TATA!

SURRENDER, GAUL! OR I GIVE THE ORDER TO ATTACK!

WATCH OUT! HERE HE COMES!

WELL, IS HE SURRENDERING OR ISN'T HE?

ALL THIS WAITING IS GETTING ME DOWN!

ZING!

CLING!

CLINK!

CLOWK!

WHOOSH!

I LAY DOWN MY WEAPON AT YOUR FEET, CENTURION, AS OUR CHIEF VERCINGETORIX LAID HIS ARMS AT THE FEET OF YOUR MASTER, CAESAR!

WELL, COME ON, DO SOMETHING! I SURRENDER! I CAN'T HANG ABOUT ALL DAY!
SEIZE HIM, YOU LILLY-LIVERED LOT, OR I'LL SEND YOU TO THE CIRCUS TO BE THROWN TO THE LIONS!

THE CIRCUS?

THE LIONS?

OH WELL!

WHAT'S UP? IT'S A GAUL WHO GOT INTO THE CAMP...

CLUNK!

CLUNK!

CLUNK!

IT'S NOT FAIR! HE DIDN'T WAIT FOR ME TO WAKE UP TO PLAY HIS PRACTICAL JOKES! IT'S NOT FAIR!

YOU REFUSED TO TALK, DRUID, BUT PERHAPS YOUR FRIEND WILL PROVE MORE LOQUACIOUS UNDER TORTURE TOMORROW!

HA-HA-HA!

HA-HA-HA-HA-HA!

I'LL RE LOQUACIOUS ALL RIGHT! I'LL LOQUACE LIKE NO ONE EVER LOQUACED BEFORE!

AUT CAESAR, AUT NIMIS! (1)

(1) THIS IS LATIN GRAMMAR

(2) THIS IS BAD GRAMMAR
QUIET! SOMEONE'S COMING!

CRONUS BONUS WANTS TO SEE YOU...

YOU GAUL! DO YOU KNOW THE SECRET OF THE MAGIC POTION?

ME? NO!

FOR THE LAST TIME, DRUID, GIVE ME THAT RECIPE OR I'LL HAVE YOUR FRIEND TORTURED!

I FEAR NO TORTURE!

I HAVE COMPLETE CONFIDENCE IN THE COURAGE OF MY FRIEND ASTERIX!

WE SHALL SEE! TIE THIS GAUL TO THE TABLE! SEND FOR THE TORTURER!

HERE I AM! HERE I AM! EVER READY!

MERCY! MERCY! I CAN'T STAND IT! STOP! MERCY!

STOP, FOR THE LOVE OF TOUTATIS! I CAN'T BEAR TO HEAR HIM! I'LL TELL ALL!

TORTURER, STOP!

BUT I HAVEN'T STARTED YET!
NOW THEN DRUID SHOW US HOW TO COOK THIS RECIPE OR WE'LL COOK YOUR FRIEND'S GOOSE!

MERCE! I WILL PREPARE THE POTION BEFORE YOUR VERY EYES, BUT I NEED SEVERAL INGREDIENTS FROM THE FOREST.

A SPOT OF MISTLETOE...

A FEW ROOTS...

SOON AFTERWARDS...

HERBS AND WILD FLOWERS! HE WANTS A CAULDRON!

GIVE HIM A CAULDRON!

A PINCH OF SALT... A DASH OF PEPPER... LET IT SIMMER... YES! YES! FASTER! FASTER!

THERE'S SOMETHING MISSING... SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT...

WHAT? WHAT?

STRAWBERRIES? AT THIS TIME OF YEAR?

WELL, OF COURSE IT WOULDN'T BE EASY, WE COULDN'T WAIT FOR THE STRAWBERRY SEASON...

NO, QUICK! SEND MESSENGERS! STRAWBERRIES! I MUST HAVE STRAWBERRIES! AT THE DOUBLE!

AND AS THEY WAIT FOR THE STRAWBERRIES, YOU GET SOME GOOD IDEAS, ASTERIX!

THAT WAS A FRUITFUL SUGGESTION OF YOURS, SENDING THEM OFF AFTER CAESAR'S HOLIDAY AT CAESAR'S EXPENSE!
It's days since the messengers left to look for strawberries. And not one has turned up yet!

The messengers are back, O Crismus Bonus!

About time!

O Crismus Bonus!

Not a strawberry we looked everywhere!

Tell Lucius Octavius: I'm back yet!

Here I am, O Crismus Bonus!

I found strawberries, O Crismus Bonus! I bought them for a vast sum from a Greek merchant who happened to meet me.

Give them here!

This time I really want it! As a reward you can go home on leave to see all the fun of the circus!

I'm going to the circus! I'm going to the circus!

Dread! Here are the strawberries you ordered for the magic potion!

What do you think of them, Asterix? Not up to much!

Not bad...

Come to think of it, those were excellent strawberries!

Yes, just the sort I need. Go and get me some more.

Hm...

Ham!
YOU'VE EATEN MY STRAWBERRIES AND NOW YOU HAVEN'T GOT ANY STRAWBERRIES AND YOU WANT MORE STRAWBERRIES AND IT'S NOT FAIR AND I'VE JUST ABOUT HAD ENOUGH!

THERE, THERE! NEVER MIND! WE'LL MAKE YOU YOUR POTION...

OF COURSE WE WILL!

WE CAN ALWAYS MAKE THE POTION WITHOUT STRAWBERRIES, ONLY IT WONT BE THE SAME...

THE STRAWBERRIES DO LEAVE A TASTE IN THE MOUTH...

SNIFF! SNIFF!

IT'S DONE! SERVE HOT!

GIVE IT HERE!

HOW DO I KNOW THE SOUP ISN'T POISONED, BY JUPITER?

I'LL DRINK SOME IF YOU LIKE, BY TOUTATIS!

NO! IF THIS IS THE REAL STUFF, YOUR STRENGTH WILL INCREASE TENFOLD! YOU'LL BE INJINCIBLE! I NEED A VOLUNTEER!

I SAID: I NEED A VOLUNTEER!!!

SUGRUS CORBA!

QUID NOV? SO WHAT?

O CRONUS BONUS, WE DON'T WANT TO RISK A LEGIONARY'S LIFE, WE OUGHT TO EXPERIMENT ON SOME HARMLESS NATIVE...
NOT TOO WELL! I MET A MAN WHO SAID HE'D SELL MY CART AT COMPEIGN. AND SO HE GOT ME TO COME HERE AND NOW NO ONE WANTS TO BUY MY CART AND I NEED MY OVEN...

AND IT'S ALL HIS FAULT!

I DON'T QUITE FOLLOW YOUR STORY, BUT HAVE A DRINK TO CHEER YOU UP...

NO, THANK YOU, REALLY! I MUST GO AND TRY TO SELL MY CART AT THE NEXT CAMP...

HAVE SOME !!!

OH, ALL RIGHT!

SLURP! SLURP! SLURP! RRRP!

WHY ARE YOU ALL LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT? HAVEN'T YOU EVER SEEN A CART DEALER DRINKING SOUP BEFORE?
AFTER DRINKING THAT POTION YOU'RE THE STRONGEST MAN IN THE WORLD!
I AM?

HI! HI! THAT'S A JOKED, HE'S A GREAT JOKER. HE IS! HA! HA!
WELL, WE SHALL NOW FIND OUT!

BUT I'M NOT CROSS WITH ANYONE!

A VOLUNTEER FOR A PUNCH ON THE JAW!

VANITAS VANITATUM ET OMNIA VANITAS...

DE FACTO...

QUOMODO VALES?

VERY WELL, THANK YOU!

WHEN I ASK FOR A VOLUNTEER I'D LIKE A LITTLE MORE ENTHUSIASM AND A LITTLE LESS LATIN!!

I VOLUNTEER!

AN EXCELLENT NOTION!

GO ON, HIT ME!

GO ON, HIT HIM!

WELL, HIT HIM THEN!

?

?!

I THOUGHT THE SKY HAD FALLEN ON MY HEAD!

DID IT HURT?

OFF!

OOF!
WELL, IF YOU DON'T NEED ME ANY MORE I'LL BE OFF...

GEE UP!

WAIT A MINUTE! IF I GOT IT RIGHT, I'M VERY STRONG NOW!

THIS IS GREAT! NOW I CAN SELL MY OXEN AND PULL THE CART MYSELF!

THAT POTION... C certainlY does have... MAGIC POWERS!

AND AT COMPENDIUM... Glug glug glug!

COME ON, EVERYONE! LET'S ALL DRINK THE MAGIC POTION!
OUR ROAD TO ROME IS CLEAR, O MARCUS GNANTONICUS! CAESAR'S DAYS ARE NUMBERED!

DRUID, GIVE US THAT RECIPE IN WRITING!

AND THEN WE'LL GET RID OF THESE TWO GAULS! IT WILL TEACH THEM A LESSON!

HERE'S HAIR ON YOUR CHEST!

AND NOW TO TRY OUT MY NEW STRENGTH!

HNNNNNG!

HMM... SET MY RIGHTS TOO HIGH!

I'LL TRY THIS ONE!

NNNNNG!

SOMETHING SMALLER...

Perhaps this one?

I'VE DONE IT!

I'M A SUPERMAN!!!

AMAZING!
YOU'VE FOOL ME! YOU BEAST! THERE'S NO MAGIC IN THAT POTION!!!

OM YES THERE IS!

Hi! Hi! Ho! Ho! Ha! Ha!

O CRUZUS BONUS, CAN'T WE GET EVEN WITH THESE GAULS?

YOU COULD HAVE SHAVED BEFORE COMING TO SEE ME!

A SELF-RESPECTING LEGIONARY SHOULD BE CLEAN SHAVEN!

MAYBE, BUT A SELF-RESPECTING CENTURION SHOULD PRACTICE WHAT HE PREACHES!

HERE—WHAT'S HAPPENING TO US?

LOOK!!!
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE, DRUID?

I'LL KILL YOU! GIVE ME THE ANTIDOTE!

IF YOU KILL US WE WON'T BE ABLE TO MAKE ANY ANTIDOTE!

BESIDES, WE'RE A LITTLE TIRED TODAY...
WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A REST IN OUR TENT.

WAIT!!!

WHAT HAPPENED, O CRATUS BONUS? I TRIPPED OVER MY BEARD, IDIOT!

SOON AFTERWARDS... I AM AT THE MERCY OF THESE GAULS! THEY'VE GOT US BY THE SHORT HAIRS! I MUST STRIKE A BARGAIN WITH THEM!
WE’VE INVENTED A NEW GAME. EVERY TIME I’VE SEEN A MAN WITH A BEARD WE SCORE FIFTEEN. THE ONE WITH THE HIGHEST SCORE WINS! (1)

(3) A GAME STILL PLAYED TODAY IN CERTAIN PARTS OF WESTERN EUROPE.

WILL YOU SHUT UP ABOUT HAIR!!!

ALL RIGHT, KEEP YOUR HAIR ON!

HA! HA! STOP! STOP! HA! HA! HA! HA!
NOW ASTERIX, THIS LITTLE CAULDRON HOLDS MAGIC POTION—WE'LL NEED PLENTY OF STRENGTH TO GET US OUT OF HERE...

THE LARGE CAULDRON WILL CONTAIN ANTIODOTE: WATER, VEGETABLES, MARROW-BONES, SALT... WE MIGHT AS WELL MAKE SOME GOOD SOUP, SINCE WE'LL HAVE TO TASTE IT IN FRONT OF THE ROMANS...

SOON AFTERWARDS...

THE MAGIC POTION IS READY! TAKE A GOOD SWIG!

YOU CAN CALL THE OTHERS NOW...

SOUP'S UP!

BRING THE CAULDRON HERE!

COMING! COMING!

YOU HAVE SOME FIRST!

WHAT'S IT LIKE?

VERY GOOD... A FEW CROUTONS MIGHT IMPROVE IT...

SWOOP! GLOR! GLORY!
NOW IT'S YOUR TURN...

AND HOW CAN I BE SURE THIS POTION WILL STOP MY HAIR GROWING?

YOU THINK OF EVERYTHING, ROMAN! LOOK AT MY MOUSTACHE — IT'S NOT GROWING ANY LONGER!

SO IT ISN'T, BY JUPITER! LET'S HAVE SOME!

GREEDY PIGS!

YES, AND JUST THINK OF ALL THOSE HAIRS IN THE SOUP! UGH!

SEIZE THEM!!!

WITH PLEASURE!

AHA! NOW THEN...

LEGGO!

CURLYLOCKS, CURLYLOCKS, WILT THOU BE MINE?

HELP!
LET GO!

RIGHT!

COME ON!
LET'S GO BEFORE THEY COME AROUND!

JUST AS I WAS BEGINNING TO ENJOY MYSELF!

VADE RETRO!!

ROMANS!

HEAPS OF ROMANS!

TCHOP!

AND OVER THERE! WE'RE SURROUNDED!

REINFORCEMENTS ARRIVING IN THE NICK OF TIME!

WE'RE IN A SPOT!
THIS TIME I'LL ROAST YOU ALIVE!

O CRISMIUS BONUS, YOU'RE WANTED URGENTLY IN YOUR TENT...

URGENTLY?

URGENTLY

WHO'S LEFT THIS CLOAK LYING AROUND MY TENT?

WHO ELSE?

JULIUS CAESAR!!!

I'VE COME TO SEE HOW YOU'RE GETTING ON WITH THOSE INVINCIBLE GAULS. WHAT'S GOING ON HERE TO PREVENT THE GARRISON WELCOMING ME WITH THE CUSTOMARY HONOURS?

WELL... ER... IT SO HAPPENS WE'RE FIGHTING THE GAULS AT THIS VERY MOMENT...

GAULS? HOW MANY GAULS?

THO...

BY CLEOPATRA, SHOW ME THIS PRECIOUS PAIR WHO CAN UPSET A WHOLE GARRISON OF LEGIONARIES!
AHA! SO THESE ARE THE TERRIBLE GAULS!

TELL ME WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT...

CRISSUS BONUS WAS EXTREMELY EAGER TO GET HOLD OF THE RECIPE FOR A MAGIC PORTION WHICH WOULD HAVE MADE HIM INVINCIBLE, REMOVING ALL OBSTACLES BETWEEN HIMSELF AND THE IMPERIAL THRONE...

WELL, WELL!

I CAN EXPLAIN EVERYTHING!

DONT BOTHER! GO AND SHAVE. THEN YOU AND YOUR MEN WILL SET OFF FOR OUTER MONSOLIA. I HEAR THERE'S A BARBARIAN REBELLION THERE...

AS FOR YOU, IN EXCHANGE FOR THE SERVICE YOU HAVE RENDERED ME, I GRANT YOU YOUR FREEDOM...

BUT THIS IS ONLY A TRUCE GAUL. WE SHALL MEET AGAIN!

SOON AFTERWARDS...

BY TOUTATIS, HERE THEY ARE!


I COULD EAT ANOTHER BOAR...