



Asterix the Legionary

René Goscinny , Albert Uderzo (Illustrator)

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It's off to the wars for Asterix and Obelix: they've enlisted as legionnaires in order to rescue Tragicomix, whom the Romans forcibly conscripted. The two find Tragicomix and succeed in causing the biggest commotion ever on a battlefield.

Asterix the Legionary Details

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Author : René Goscinny , Albert Uderzo (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review Asterix the Legionary for online ebook

miledi says

Qui c'è il legionario egiziano Scarpdetenis :)))

Travis says

For the girl he secretly has a crush on, Obelix volunteers himself and Asterix to find her missing fiancée. The problem is, he was 'drafted' by the Roman army and is now stationed in Egypt.

They decide the easiest way to find him is sign up for the army themselves and get assigned where their quarry is.

They of course prove more than the Roman army can handle and cause chaos and confusion every step of the way.

My very first Asterix book is one of my favorites. A slapstick comedy look at ancient history with a very likable duo of heroes.

Along with Tintin, these books were the first ones that showed me comic books could be more than super heroes.

Greg Brozeit says

I would venture to guess that the vast majority of European children from the early 1960s through today have read some, if not all, Asterix comic books. Probably many times over. The first 24 editions are, in my opinion, the best comics ever written. These French comics were written by René Goscinny, who died in 1977, and illustrated by Albert Uderzo. They were translated into virtually every language in the world. Uderzo continued to illustrate and write through his retirement in 2011, keeping Goscinny's name on the cover. While good, the later volumes lacked Goscinny's sharp humor and plot development.

As a native German who attended American schools, I learned to read German by devouring the stories of Asterix, his best friend Obelix, and their friends whose magic potion gave them the strength to make their village in Gaul the only place in Europe the Romans could not conquer. I can trace my love of history back to these stories. I laughed as they constantly thwarted Julius Caesar, I loved traveling with them to every corner of Europe and north Africa (and when Uderzo took over both duties, as far away as America and Persia), as they competed in the Olympics in Greece, and built the great pyramids. The rudimentary Latin phrases occasionally used by Roman soldiers and one of the hapless pirates they always seemed to encounter helped me out in my grammar classes. Indeed, I can't imagine my childhood without them. Or my adulthood.

So picking a favorite is kind of like choosing your favorite child. But I will venture to say that if I had to pick one, it would be *Asterix als Legionär* (*Asterix the Legionary*). By the time this was written in 1967, Goscinny and Uderzo were peaking as a creative team. I've read this volume at least once a year since 1971.

Asterix is the wiliest of the Gauls. Obelix, his best friend, fell into a vat of the magic potion as a child, making him invincible. Obelix is notoriously innocent and not too bright. He falls in love with Falbala, only to have his heart broken when he learns her fiancé has been drafted into the Roman legion. Asterix decides that they will join the Roman legion to find and bring him back. They end up being a part of a company made up of ragtag individuals from around the Roman empire—including a Belgian, Goth, Greek, Brit and

an Egyptian who thinks he's part of a tour group, a snarky interpreter, a seemingly stubborn company cook, and two exasperated commanding officers. Their adventures take them from Gaul to the Mediterranean to a "battle" in North Africa and back. Before the inevitable happy ending, the combination of the story, jokes and art work flow together perfectly.

In Germany, a separate industry of Asterix volumes has developed that are also incredible fun. They are the same stories, but the dialogue is translated into a wide variety of German dialects. I have a number, including this volume in Schwäbisch (Swabian) dialect. They are incredible. Even native speakers need the glossaries to understand many of the dialects, which cover every corner of the country.

Americans generally know nothing about Asterix. If you have children or grandchildren, there are volumes that include three editions in English. Get some as Christmas or birthday gifts. You will be very popular and then you won't have to think too hard about which future gifts to get. You'll learn why the rest of the world has been laughing for the past few decades.

Wise Fool says

Obelix actually falls in love and does all he must to keep his love happy.
Our brave hero's actually join the Roman army!
Another funny adventure to enjoy!

David Sarkies says

Asterix and Obelix in the Army

18 August 2013

Poor Obelix, he meets a girl with whom he falls in love only to discover that she has been engaged to somebody else and he has been drafted into the Roman Army to go and fight Ceaser's civil war against Pompey. Well, any love sick individual would probably sit back, wait until he is killed, and then make his move, but not Asterix and Obelix – they are too noble and honourable to do that, so they do what any good and noble person would do in such a situation – they join the Roman army to go off and rescue him.

Like the Asterix books before this one, I was in stitches, particularly with the Egyptian, who, throughout the entire album, believed he was on some tour. Also, despite the strict discipline that is expected of those in the army, Asterix and Obelix managed to pummel their way through training and get off to North Africa, on their own terms, to rescue Tragicomix from the civil war and bring him back to his fiancée.

The civil war aspect is rather amusing because the whole idea of the Roman army fighting the Roman army is quite farcical, especially how they actually don't know who is fighting whom because they are all wearing the same uniform. I suspect that in reality (and this is not reality – this is Asterix) one could easily define who the enemy was, but then if they had done that it would not have been so amusing.

The other rather amusing aspect was how they had Obelix burst into tears when he discovered that the love of his life (or the latest one) was engaged to be married, and then from that point on whenever somebody burst into tears it had to be because their heart had been broken. Obviously there was no connection with the original one, though I do think it was because Asterix and Obelix first indicated that this was why they had burst into tears, and thus the other legionaries, who had the good chance of landing up in Asterix and

Obelix's cohort, had picked up off of them.

So, another Asterix album finished, and one that is still up there with the others. There are still quite a few more to go, and at this stage I am still waiting for another two compendiums to arrive from the United States (and I do hope they get here because I am really stressing out about these latest Amazon orders), so I will hopefully manage to get through all of them sometime soon.

Paul says

J'ai un énorme parti de mon coeur réservé aux histoires d'Astérix et Obélix.

Cela étant dit, ceci est probablement une de mes histoires préférée de ces deux Gaulois.

J'ai ri aux larmes sur certaine des planches... pas bon pour la préservation, mais très bon pour le moral... poils à l'occipital?

Nicola says

Book Group Challenges can be wonderful things - sometimes I end up reading something that I would never normally read just to shoe-horn it in to a task: That's usually a painful experience but does occasionally throw fabulous books that I would never have read off my own bat onto my path. They also sometimes prod me to take nostalgic walks down memory lane, visiting old friends.

This was one of those sorts - the incredibly clever Asterix and Obelix series so wonderfully translated into English. All of the humour and the puns haven't lost any of their charm even 20 years or so after last reading them, in fact I think I picked up a few more references that sailed over my head last time.

In this, one of the best of a very good set of books, Asterix and Obelix join the Roman Legion and head off to Africa on a search and rescue mission. If you know anything about those two you won't be surprised to hear that they blithely ignore all army rules and regulations and drive their commanding officers quite insane with their antics.

If your reading life so far hasn't included any of these gems I would recommend rectifying that as soon as may be.

Ahmad Sharabiani says

Asterix the Legionary (Asterix, #10), René Goscinny

Jacques le fataliste et son maître says

Storia semplice, gli spunti di comicità più brillanti nascono dal carattere “multiculturale” del gruppetto di soldati in cui Asterix e Obelix vengono inquadrati e dalla loro interazione con la disciplina dell'esercito romano. Memorabili: l'egiziano che si arruola credendo di entrare in un villaggio vacanze e resta di questa idea fino alla fine e i siparietti fra l'interprete e i legionari che non parlano latino.

Laura says

Pour recuperer l'un des leurs, enrole de force (qui plus est le fiance de Falbala !), nos amis Asterix et Obelix s'engagent dans la legion : ils vont y semer une belle pagaille !

Μιχ?λης says

Τρ?χες στη μ?τη

Zsófia Andr?ssy says

Loved it! Quick and funny, and it had some of my favourite jokes.

Suzannah says

"The trouble with you Romans is, you aren't delicate or poetic. And the trouble with me is, I'm so shy and retiring."

"Hear what that mastodon said?"

Probably my favourite Asterix ever.

Francesco says

Forse non uno degli albi pi? memorabili del piccoletto gallo, ma la scena del rancio ogni volta mi stende.

Karhum Ghassan says

My favorite of the Asterix books. I particularly like the clueless Egyptian who speaks in hieroglyphs, and the repeated recitation of the unit designation. Possibly my favorite Asterix in which he and the lovely Obelix enlist in the Roman army, along with various other misfits, Goths, etc. Can't think of anything else in fact this one is cool because Asterix and Obelix actually enlist with the roman army

KarschtI says

Mein Freund hat sich dieses Buch aus der Bibliothek ausgeborgt, zu Recherchezwecken f?r einen Literaturcache zu H.C. Artmann, dem ?bersetzer dieser wienerischen Fassung.

Ich, die ich zwar alle Asterix-Filme kenne aber bisher so gut wie keinen Comic gelesen hab, wollte ihn dann auch mal lesen. Weil sich sowas gesprochen aber besser anhört als nur still gelesen, hat mein Freund (mit dem Wiener Dialekt besser vertraut als ich) es mir vorgelesen. Und später hab ich dann einiges vorgelesen und mich wohl gar nicht so schlecht angehört.

Das Verstehen war meistens auch gar kein Problem, viele Wörter kenn ich mittlerweile, andere hören sich eh fast so an wie im hochdeutschen. Nur die korrekte Aussprache war teilweise schwierig. Wienerisch werde ich wohl eh nie sprechen, bin nicht der Typ dafür sich andere Dialekte anzueignen, was sich sowieso immer nur blöd anhören würde.

Nochmal kurz zurück zum Buch: etwas anders als der Film, wo die Befreiung Tragicomix sehr viel spektakulärer und langwieriger war und vor allem Falbala auch entführt wurde. Vielleicht wurden da aber auch mehrere Comics zusammengeschnitten für den Film?

Amalie says

Recruiting new members for Caesar's army!

The most memorable character of the book is Ptenisnet the Egyptian volunteer who believes that he is actually on a package holiday!!! :D Ptenisnet forever complains about the accommodation and asking to see the menu. Ptenisnet mistakes Julius Caesar for a holiday-camp redcoat. Read this for Ptenisnet.

Gastronomix the Belgian volunteer shares a barber with Tintin.

Due to the good-natured interplay of the medley band of recruits whose multiple language barriers conspire to break the morale of every Roman authority figure they encounter.

One of the best!

Mimi says

Note to self: stick to reading these in French or Dutch... The English translation sort of ruins most of the word puns, taking them from clever to downright silly.

Jerome says

A humorous entry in the series, this tale is mostly a parody of two things: first love and military culture. Obelix is smitten by one of the village girls but is pained to find out that she is already engaged to a certain Tragicomix, who has been conscripted into the Roman army (on campaign in North Africa against Scipio). The two enlist in the army and, along with a colorful collection of recruits from around the Roman empire, travel to Africa for the war against Scipio and attempt to track down Tragicomix. Along the way, the Gauls and the rest of the recruits annoy the hell out of their two centurions and make a mockery of everything related to military discipline.

Fun and humorous.

Iloveplacebo says

Muchas risas con la 1ª legión, 3ª cohorte, 2ª manípula, 1ª centuria.

Creo que en este tomo nos encontramos con los secundarios más divertidos de los cómics de Astérix.
