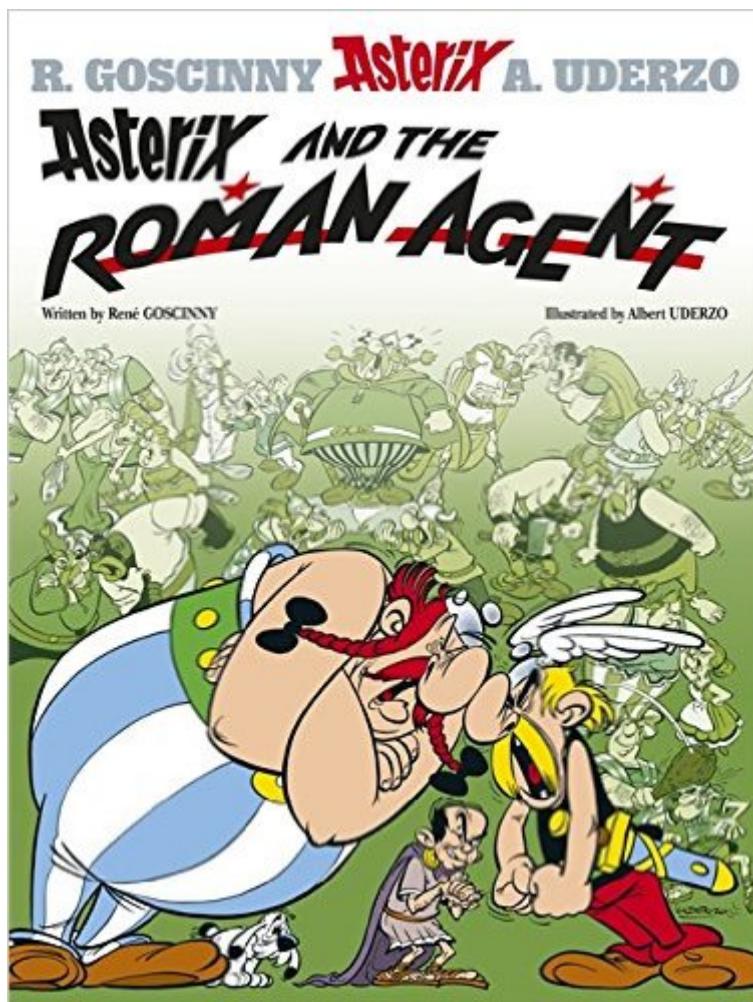


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# Asterix And The Roman Agent: Album #15 (Asterix (Orion Paperback))



## Synopsis

Julius Caesar resorts to psychological warfare to defeat the little Gaulish village: he's sent expert troublemaker Tortuous Convolulus to set friend against friend. Jealousy soon spreads as the Gauls become suspicious of each other. Somehow, Asterix must outwit the wily Convolulus.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The Asterix books are all funny, and clever in their use of language. They are for a wide range of ages. My daughter has been enjoying reading them since she was eight years old, and I still love them.

How easy it is for a troublemaker to spread dissension among the unaware. In this amusing episode, Caesar sends a cunning strategist to undermine the unity of the village, but the Druid perceives the danger. What a tangled web!

It is a pity that the adventures of Asterix The Gaul are not as well-known as many other series or comic books. The little warrior and his village friends are quite a riot. Combining historical settings involving the Roman Empire circa 50 BC and quite a bit of Gaul/French pride, the series is informative, delightful and fun, although the last quality might not apply to Roman citizens! Tired of one tiny Gaul village that resists its complete domination of the entire Gaul Julius Caesar is seeking a solution. Where military might won't work trickery and psychology might. Enter a Roman felon to

penetrate the unity of the Gauls and win by dividing and conquering what no Centurion has managed. It works too... for a while. The Gauls are in strife. In the process there is loads of bedlam, grief and female gossiping and rumour mongering. The writing is fantastic, the illustrations exciting and where else would fans find Obelix saluting his old mate using the enemy's "Ave Asterix"!?

In this book, the great Julius Caesar attempts once more to destroy the well-loved Armorian village on the seaside of Gaul. He sends a Roman agent to sow the seeds of strife between Asterix and his people. Whether you're a newcomer to the world of Asterix and Obelix the Gauls, or an old fan, this particular book is one that is definitely worth owning. The way the authors so easily entwine history with fiction and comedy is priceless.

Julius Caesar's opponents in the Roman Senate are putting him under increasing ridicule, as a result of the continued resistance of the tiny village in the north of Gaul, which refuses to submit to Roman hegemony. His latest plan involves the use of an agent, who has a remarkable talent to cause enmity and conflict, wherever he goes. Before he gets to use his cunning in his attempts to neutralize the village, we get to observe his talents, with all who he comes into contact with. Before long, Tortuous Convulvulus has sown the seeds of slander, jealousy and calumny in the Gaullish village, causing Asterix, Obelix and Getafix to leave the village. Can our friends once more foil the Romans and preserve the independence of the village? This Asterix album comes complete with a handy little battle guide, and once more is filled with the puns and wit we have come to expect from Goscinny and Uderzo. In this album we get to examine the divide and rule tactics of the Roman Empire, which were used so well by the British Empire, and in the 20th century the Communist Empire. It is also used today with great effect in one party states to neutralize opposition.

Roman Agent is a clever, wily person with whom the devil travels with. Since the village is invincible, they think that only one plan remains: to get them to fight each other. Once again the Romans' plans fall short as the Gauls beat Romans bad.

Asterix's adventures continue in this addition to the series. The Romans, who always get the worst of the fights with these mighty Gauls, have decided to switch strategies. The Gauls, with their magical elixir, always prevail in contests of physical strength. Instead, the Romans decide to attack the Gauls' weak point, so engage in a battle of wits. They send an infiltrator to undermine the unity and friendship of Asterix's village, and very nearly succeed. It turns out that the Romans weren't

well equipped for a battle of wits either, and end up hoist on their own sneaky petard. It's a happily silly chapter in the Asterix saga, and closes on a cheery feast, with plenty of roast boar for everyone. Asterix and the rest have provided good natured and kid safe humor since the 1960s. A few blackface stereotypes will jar modern readers, and put a few off this book entirely. Too bad - despite being a product of its time, this perennial favorite still deserves to be enjoyed.-- wiredweird

I regard this as probably the best of the Asterix albums. The french title is "La zizanie" and I don't know whether there is an exact english word for zizanie. It means something that makes people angry at every other people. And that is what the gaul village suffers as a particularly despicable roman agent specialized in creating zizanie is sent by Caesar. Basically, he tries to make the other gauls envious and jealous of Asterix status as a hero. Once the village is divided, it would be easier to conquer. And the agent almost succeeds. Only when Asterix threatens to leave the village, the rest of the gauls come back to their senses. The action happens almost all the time in the village and in the suffering roman garrisons surrounding it. An excellent album.

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