

THE ALCIBIADE DIDASCAUX SERIES, MUCH MORE THAN JUST COMICS !

« Follow the Classics teacher, you will see how easy learning history becomes. »

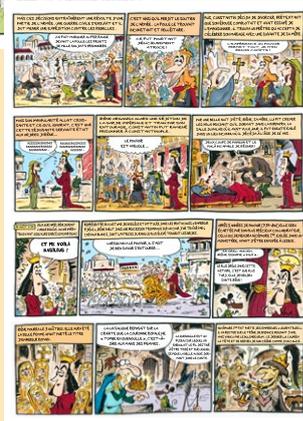


« I must say you really know the rules of the game : becoming well-read is great fun. Education should make people happy as far as possible. »

Ms Sylvie D. - 85110 Chantonnay



Follow Alcibiade DIDASCAUX's footsteps ! If you enjoy the Monty Pythons' humour, you will delight in reading Alcibiade DIDASCAUX's amazing adventures and learn about the past from genuine historical references! Those series are particularly popular in many primary and secondary school-libraries. They have also been sold to the general public by such big booksellers in France. They were the first to sell our books in 1993 and are still doing so.



« Dear Alcibiade, how popular you are among my younger pupils. I might be a little envious ... »

Marine B. - Classics teacher - 83000 Toulon



A series of unusual comic strips. They don't belong anywhere in a publishing world of frequently standardized products. Alcibiade DIDASCAUX doesn't look like anything else. It is the reason why it has become so popular. Our books have become long sellers. More than 200 000 issues have been sold already, if we take all the different volumes into account.

Comics, with a real text to be read, true contents, real books.

Bear in mind reading is the universal key to knowledge.



« A central character like Alcibiade makes it easier to learn history. »

Ms Claire J. - 59212 Wignehies



In fact which other series offer both « humour » and « a truthful relation of history » acknowledged by the greatest specialists ? Little wonder its readers range from youngsters aged 8 or 9 -if they are very good readers- and mostly 11 or 12 to a wide public of culturally-minded teenagers and grown-ups in love with history. As it happens, all readers no matter their age and educational background have their own way of appreciating our culturally-oriented comics.

« Thank-you for taking the responsibility to show knowledge can be made attractive to all kinds of readers without distorting real historical facts. »

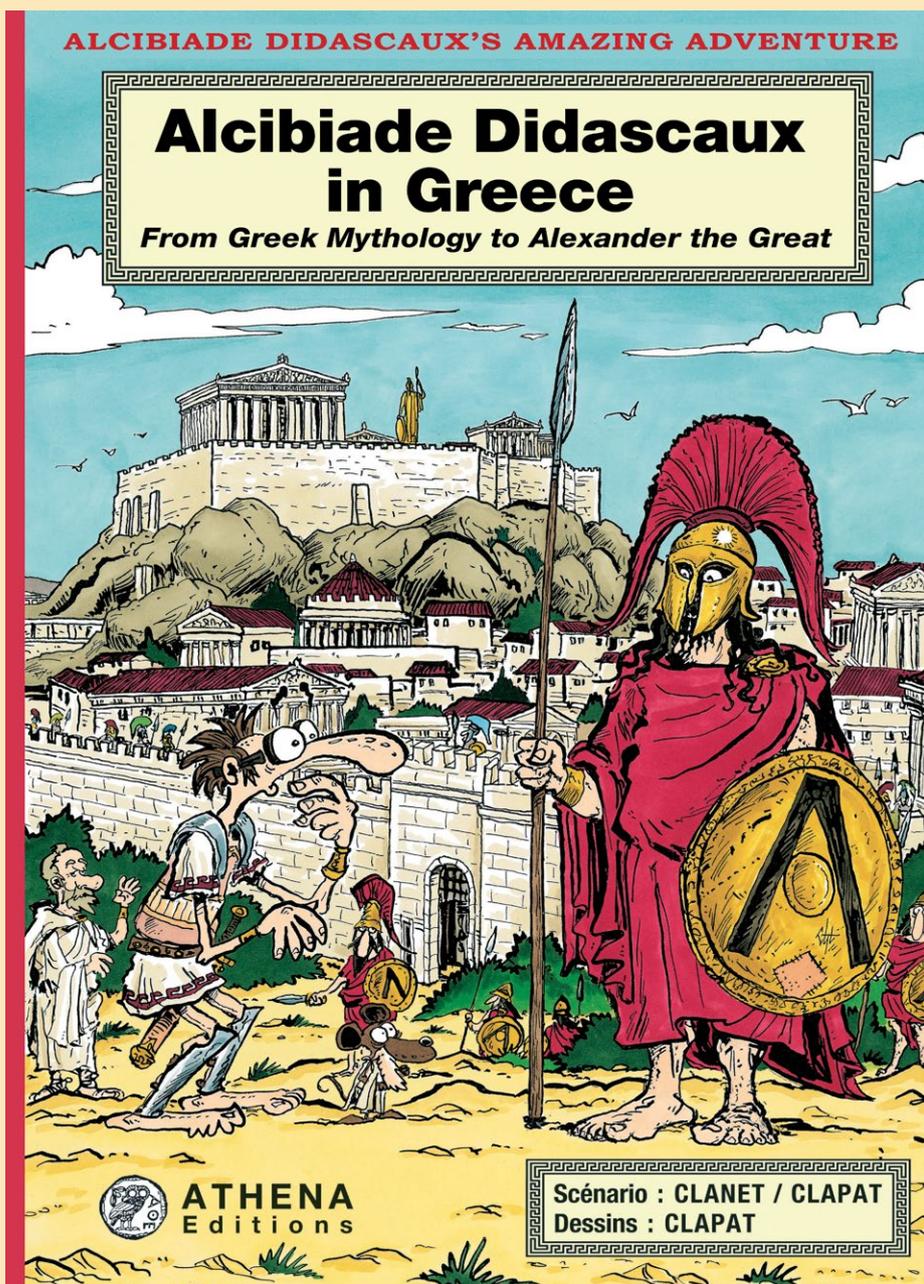
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Contents of each volume : 64 pages of comics printed on heavy-duty paper, glossy cardboard covers. Size 24.5 - 33.5cm.

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Full of fun and historically accurate, this collection has earned the praise of teachers and renowned classicists...



AN AMAZING ODYSSEY...

With a little help from his colleague in the physics and chemistry department, Greek-teacher extraordinaire Alcibiades Didascalía sets out an adventure like no other, reverting to the same age as his pupils and learning alongside them. But then things go one step further... The only way for Alcibiades to return to adulthood is for him to take part in another experiment, serving as a guinea pig as he tests his colleague's latest invention – an amazing machine that sends him back through the centuries to the dawn of humanity. As temporal leaps bring Alcibiades closer to the modern age, he has only his expertise to guide him. In a unique odyssey that takes him on a journey through space and time, Alcibiades explores the complete history of the Greek world. With Einstein watching over him, Doctor Didascalía even visits a museum and finds a record of his presence during the age of Pericles. No longer does $E = MC^2$ mean Education = Maths and Continual Cramming – with Alcibiades, the equation underpinning the theory of special relativity stands for Mythology, Culture and Civilisation. It's got it all !

Energy Mass The speed of light.

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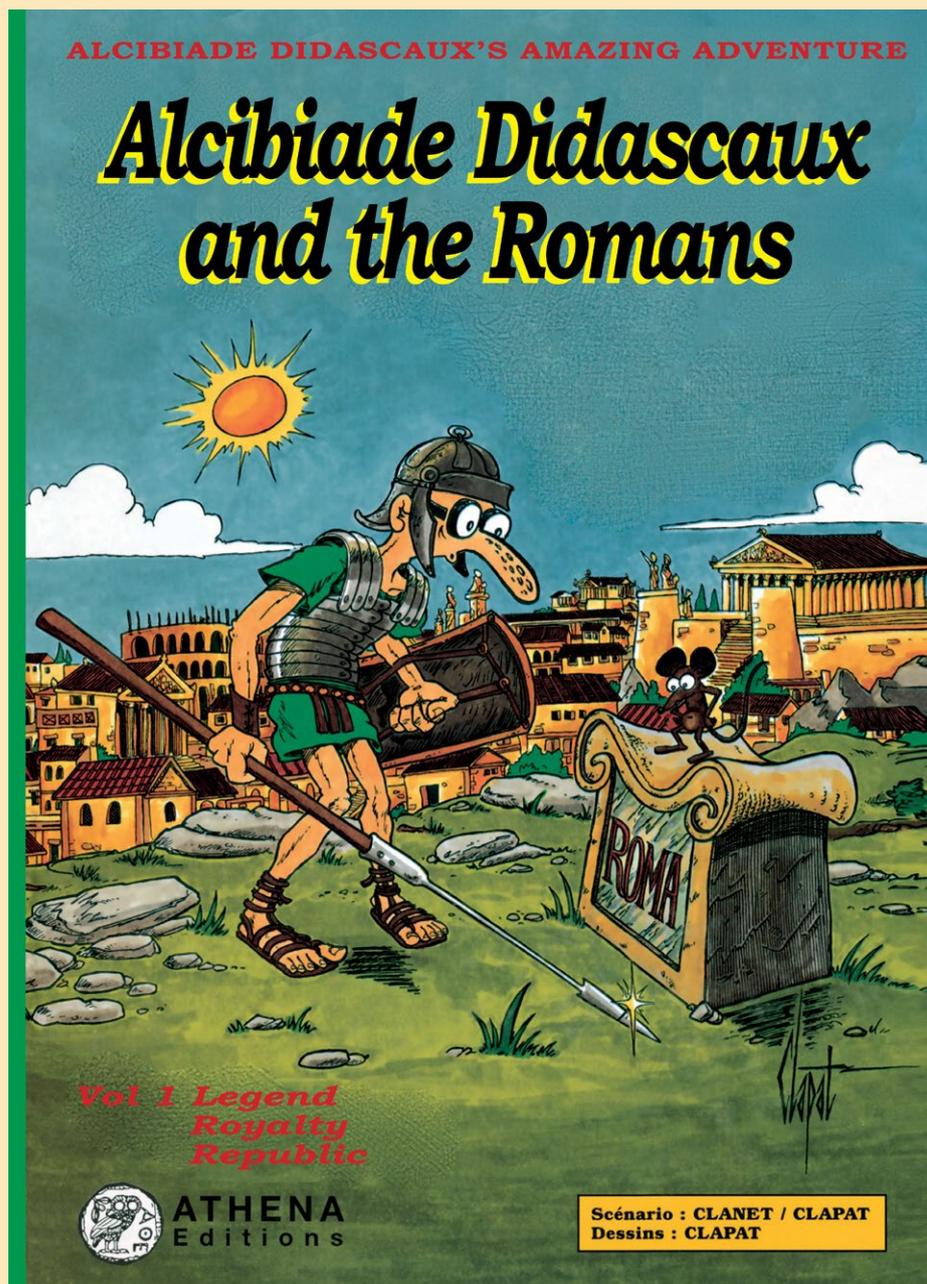
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Off he starts dreaming of ancient Rome and its legends. When he comes round at last, he realises he is back in Agenor's fearful machine where his pupils put him while he was unconscious. He can't escape the new experience ahead of him. He lands in an Etruscan tomb in 509 B.C. and is compelled to take part in several episodes of the real history of early Rome until he finds himself recruited as a legionary in consul Marius' forces. These new adventures are told in the second volume dedicated to the Roman empire.

«Congratulations for your work !
The pupils love it, so do I. »

Ms C. D. - Latin teacher

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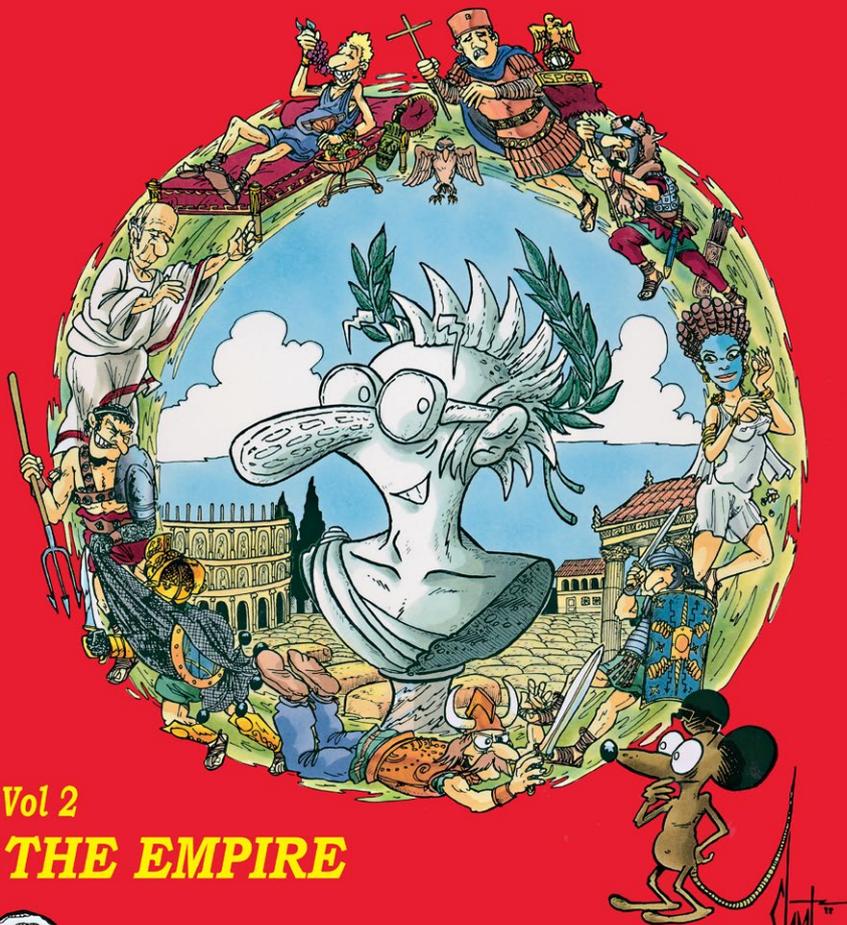
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ALCIBIADE DIDASCAUX'S AMAZING ADVENTURE

Alcibiade Didascaux and the Romans



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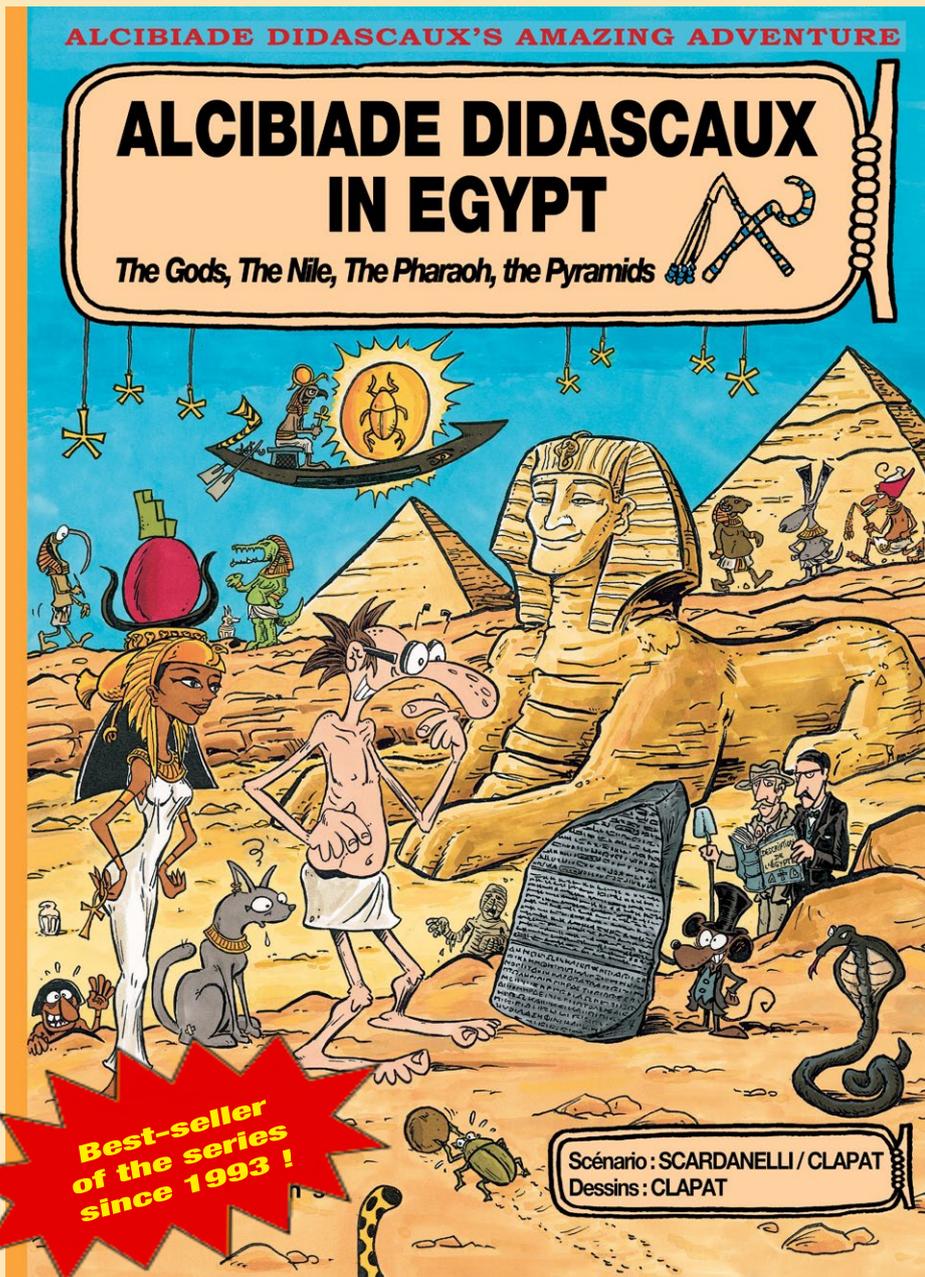
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Following in Champollion's footsteps, Alcibiade DIDASCAUX goes to Egypt in search of the roots of our civilisation. We owe a lot to Hellenism, which is also indebted to Egypt. The friendly Classics teacher is sure of that and wishes to transmit his knowledge to his pupils. For once the nice man has succeeded in escaping Agénor, his Physics fellow-teacher. But it so happens that in the desert Alcibiade runs into a strange egyptologist who treats him to a very unusual cigar. The hero is then mysteriously sent up the time ladder. With us he discovers the pantheon of Egyptian mythology. Filled with wonder, he attends the birth of the world and lives the story of Ra the sun king, the legend of Isis and Osiris, the constant fighting between Horus, linked with the forces of light, and Set connected with darkness and cosmic chaos. Soon after Alcibiade Didascaux travels through the Pharaohs' fabulous world, discovers the benefits brought by the food-providing Nile and explains why Egypt is a gift from the Nile. He takes part in the building of the pyramids, reveals the meaning of those tombs and journeys through the underworld of the dead. The first volume ends with the strange story of Thoth's spell book that must not be read by anyone.

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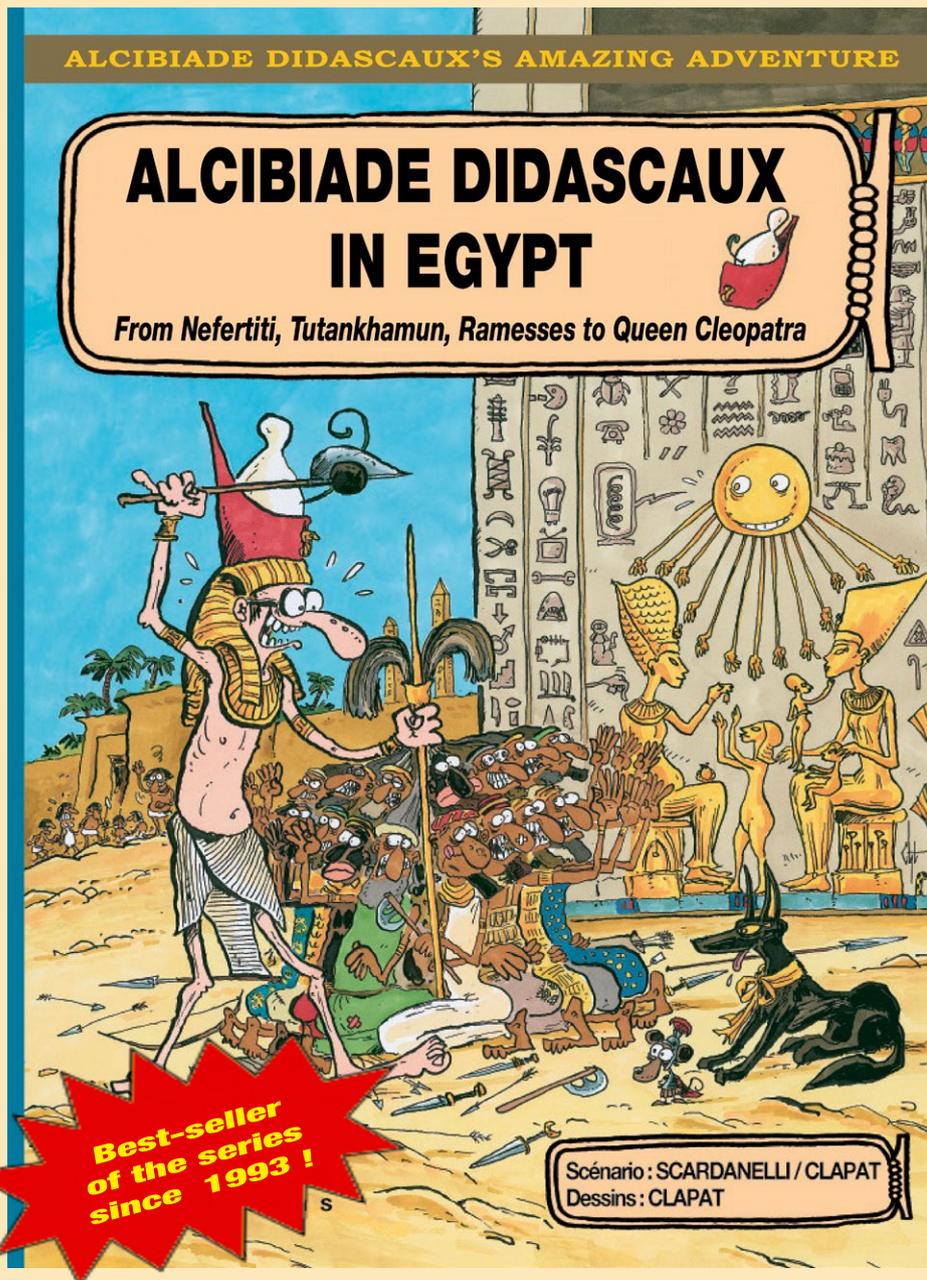
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The thrilling time travel of our nice hero goes on. After undergoing a horrid mummification process, Alcibiade Didascaux discovers the splendid world of the pharaohs. As he lives the history of Egypt again, the Greek teacher meets all kinds of mythical sovereigns he will introduce: we are delighted to meet Hatshepsut the first Pharaoh Queen, Akhenaten the mystical monotheistic sovereign and his queen beautiful legendary Nefertiti, the great dynasty of the Ramses kings, builders and warriors. The hero will also revive the awful Persian invasions and make us dream with the fantastic tales of his predecessor Herodotus. Then he will us to Cleopatra's reign and the end of the pharaohs' mysterious world, when the most fabulous ancient empire will be turned into a Roman province.

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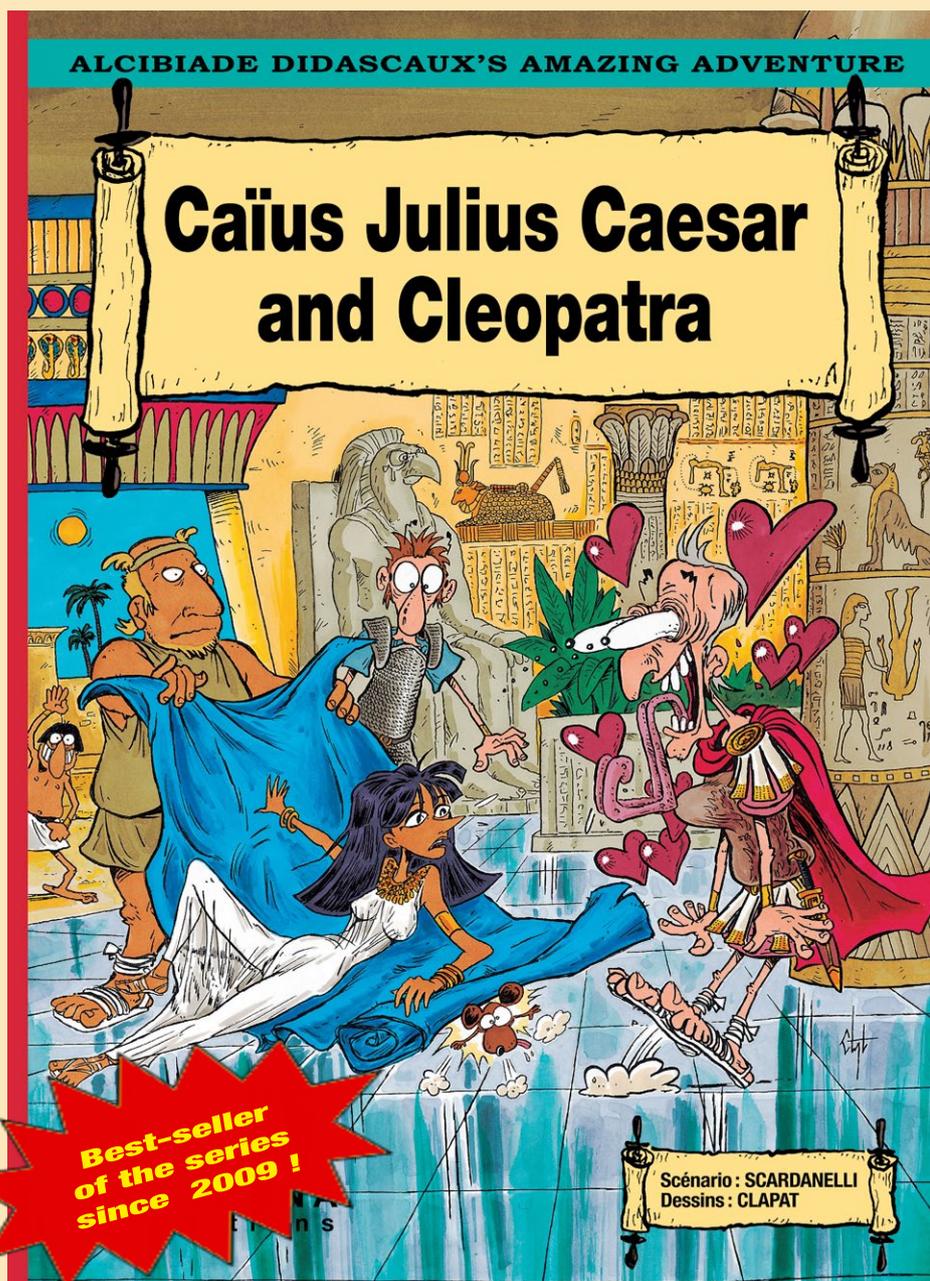
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We are in the year 49B.C. Caesar's conquest of Gaul has brought him prestige, tremendous wealth and an invincible army, thus representing a possible threat to the power of the Senate. The Senate refuses Caesar's offer that he and Pompey should lay down their commands immediately and issues an edict against him calling upon him to resign his powers and disband his army or he will risk being declared a public enemy.

Instead of complying, in January, Caesar crosses the Rubicon, a river separating Cisalpine Gaul from the rest of Italy, and marches on Rome with his legions. « The die is now cast .» It is the outbreak of the civil war. Pompey is entrusted by the Senate with defending the republic. Caesar and Pompey run after each other and fight for a long time round the Mediterranean. We follow Caesar's epic in Epirus, then Illirium, where Caesar is forced to retreat at the battle of Dyrrhachium, then at last in Thessalia where Pompey is conclusively defeated at the battle of Pharsalus in 48 B.C.. Helpless, Pompey flees to Egypt where war is raging between Ptolemy XIII and Cleopatra VII, his sister, wife and co-regnant queen. Here comes Caesar...

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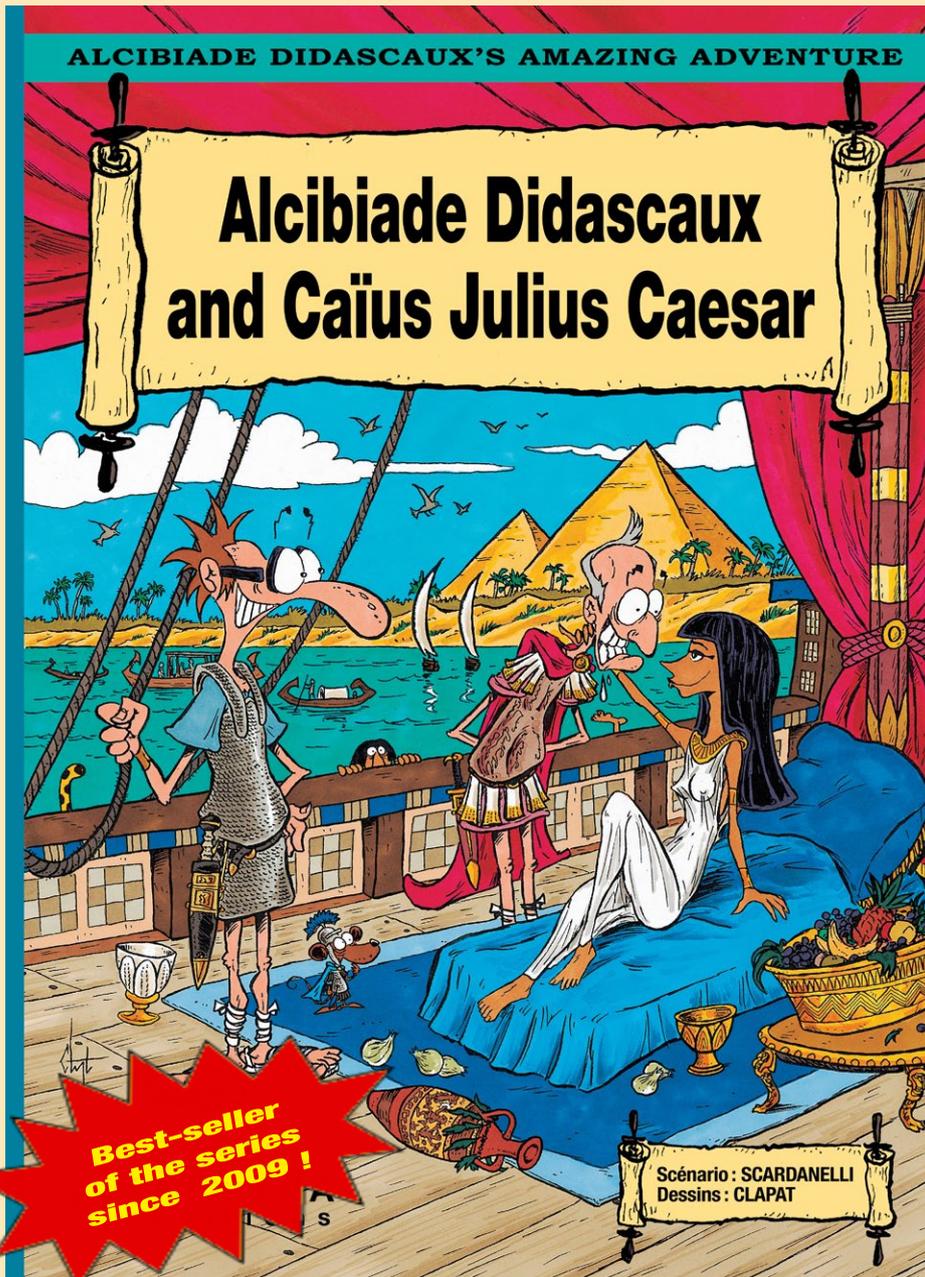
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Now the master of the world, Caesar has settled with Cleopatra in his villa across the Tiber. After the battle of Munda, the Senate awarded him extraordinary divine honours. He now has boundless powers. Appointed consul for ten years and dictator for life, he is entitled to wear the traditional outfit of a triumphant on all occasions: a purple tunic and toga, a wreath of laurel leaves covering his bald head ! He also has the right to call himself imperator. A very wealthy man, he undertakes numerous ambitious reforms in Rome and the Roman empire but he is also responsible for mistakes that will give rise to the plot against him. On the fifteenth of March in the year 44 B.C., he is stabbed to death by the last republicans, lead by Cassius and Brutus « Kai su, teknon ». Caesar's last word were uttered in Greek !

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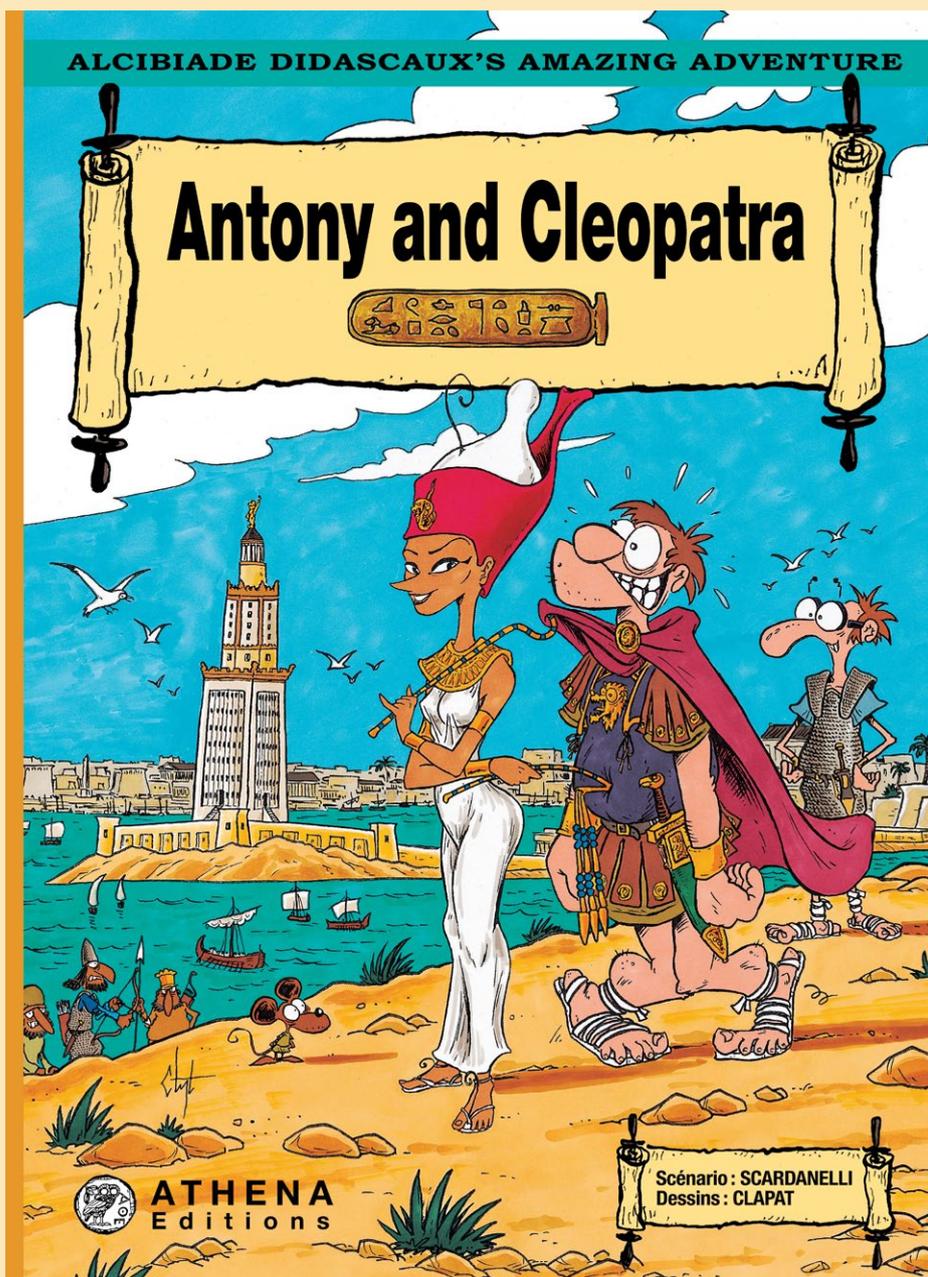
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The winner of the battle of Philippi, where he conclusively defeated the Republicans, in 42 B.C., Mark Antony becomes the new master of the Eastern world. The new mission he is given by the Senate is re-organising the Roman Orient. Then Alcibiade Didascaux et Musculus go to Tarsus and attend the famous first meeting between Cleopatra, the all-mighty queen of Egypt and Mark Antony, who used to be Caesar's partner and right-hand man and is the new prominent man in Rome. Soon after this « unforgettable meeting », Antony goes to Alexandria for an Egyptian holiday. There we discover what will be called « inimitable life » from now on. Glamorous, dazzling, mysterious Cleopatra is one of the most famous women in History. During her lover Antony's long absence, the situation in Rome gets very intricate indeed. Soon we see Octavius and Antony dividing the world among themselves by « the agreements of Brindes ». « Caesar's two heirs » put aside their brewing previous rivalry and become brothers-in-law ! Is Rome going to find peace thanks to their reconciliation after a long-lasting civil war ? Antony sees himself as a new Alexander the Great the world conqueror and dreams to conquer the East and take vengeance for Crassus' crushing defeat during the battle of Carrhae. Will he succeed in making his dream come true ?

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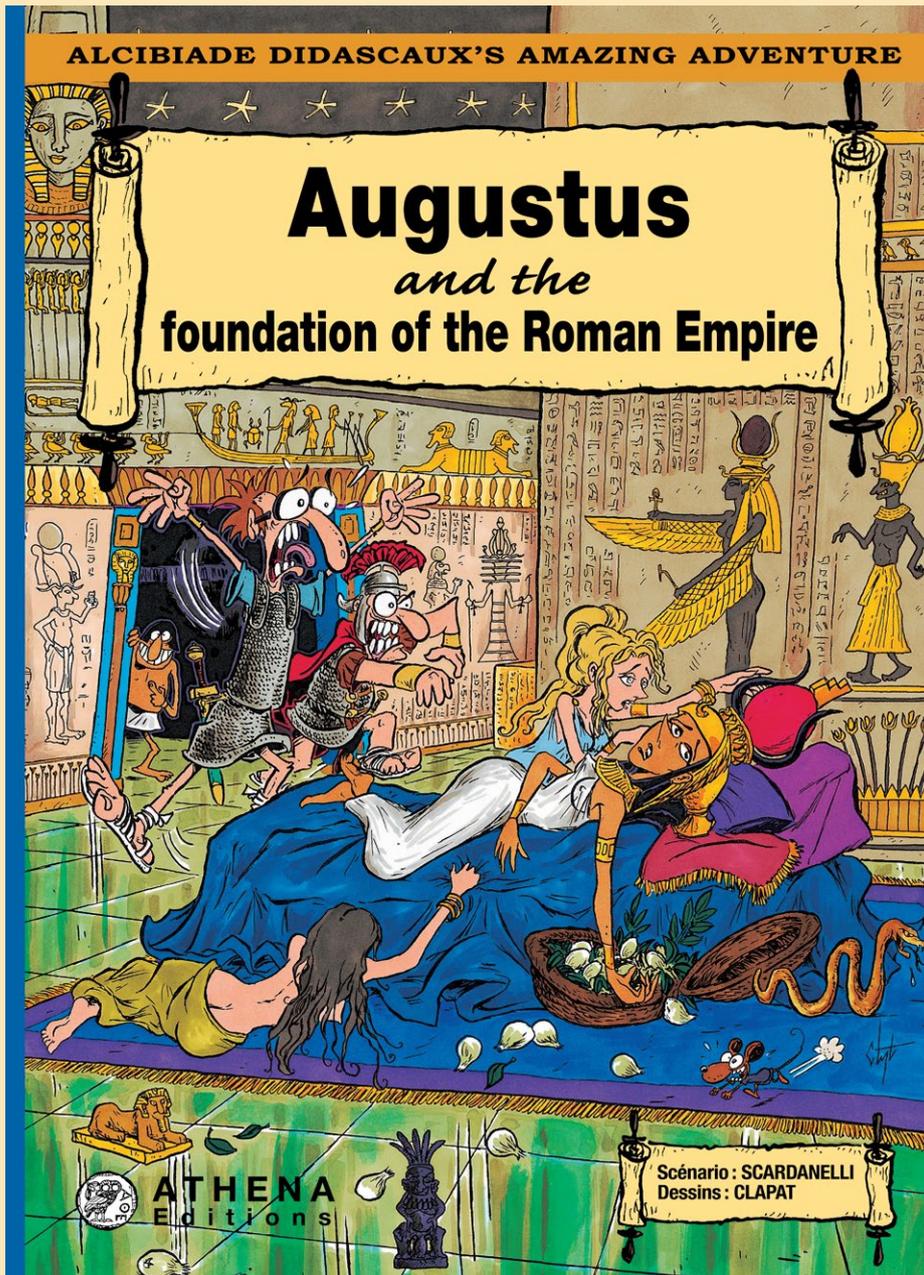
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After Antony and Octavius broke off, we discover how « Caesar's adoptive son » becomes « Octavian the avenger of freedom ». Antony's rival uses awful propaganda against Caesarion, « so-called Caesar's son » and « bewitching Cleopatra who threatens Rome » and portrays Antony as a traitor. Then Antony is declared « a public enemy » by the Senate and the war against Egypt breaks out. In 31 B.C., Antony's naval forces are crushed by Octavian off the coast of Actium. The last fights take place in Alexandria. Defeated and hopeless, Antony and Cleopatra commit suicide. It is the tragic end of one of the most beautiful love stories and the mysterious end of the most famous woman in history. Only the outward appearance of the Roman republic will be restored and in reality Octavian will impose his autocratic power over a « universal kingdom without using the word ». Egypt becomes a Roman province and its gold will enable Octavian to turn Rome into a marble city as he had pledged to. Born Octavius, becoming Octavian he founds the Empire and becomes Emperor Caesar Augustus. The first emperor had a very long reign and with him Pax Romana succeeds a nineteen-year-long period of warfare after Julius Caesar's murder. A new history of Rome is beginning. Caesar Augustus will be worshipped in Rome and deified in Egypt as Pharaoh Horus Augustus.

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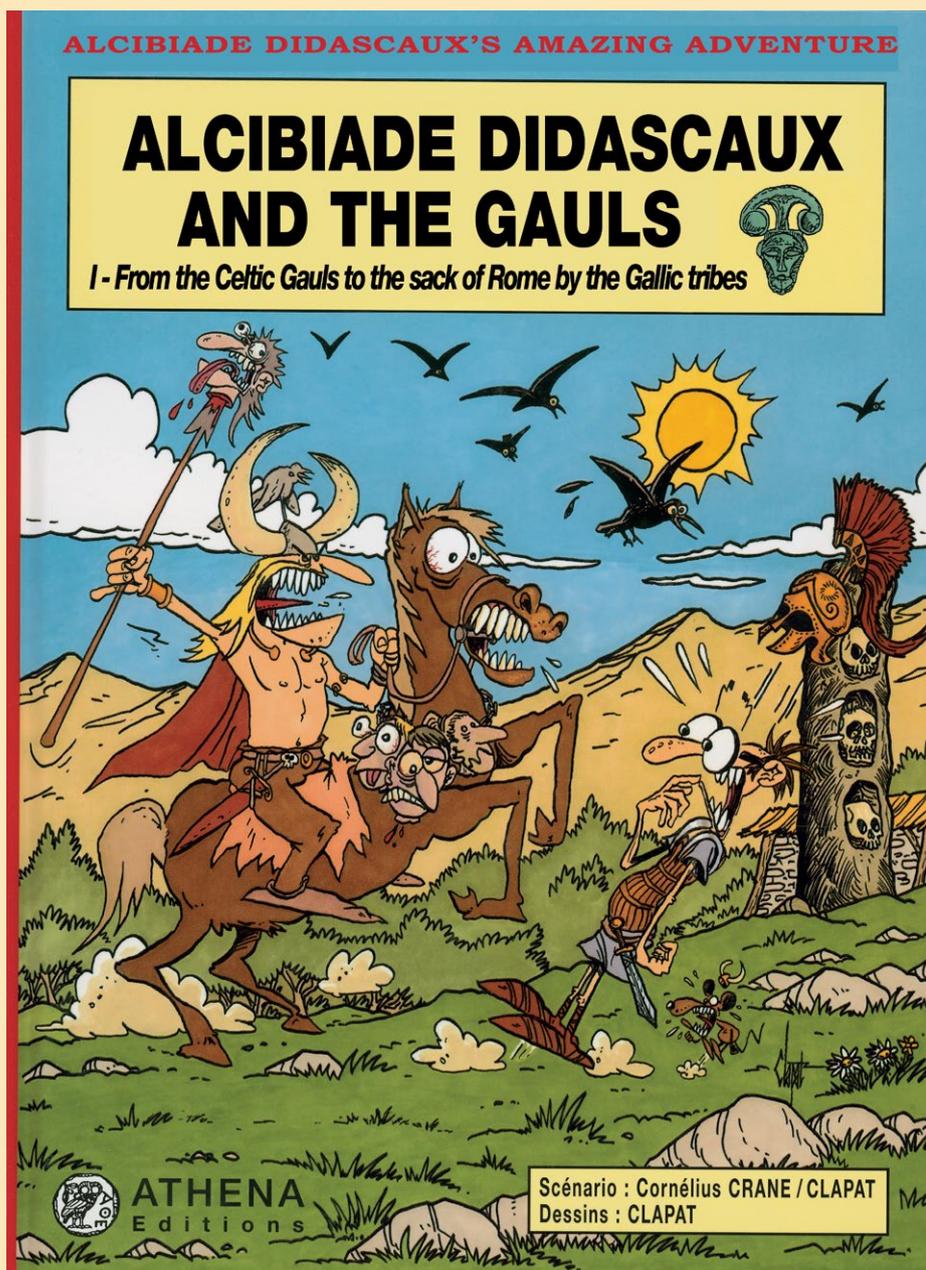
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During a visit of the Natural History Museum Alcibiade Didascaux and Musculus come across a room that is not supposed to exist. Alcibiade Didascaux and Musculus soon find themselves among proto-Celtic peoples and take part in their European migrations. As they are Gallic villagers' guests, the two heroes are introduced to the customs and ways of life of Gallic Celts. Alcibiade Didascaux then wishes to meet druids and manages to be invited to the great conference taking place in the Carnutes' forest. The mysterious magic potions he is now furnished with enable him to make a return trip to the country of the Gods and the dead . When he is back in the Armorican world of the living, the country of standing stones and dolmans, Alcibiade Didascaux explains the different human sacrifices performed by the Gauls and even makes a narrow escape. As he reaches another village, he is given explanations about the beheading rite practised by Celtic tribes. Later he attends the foundation of Massilia and meets Pytheas the Massiliot. Thanks to his time machine, Ageneor finds Alcibiade and Musculus again and spurs them to join the expedition of the Bituriges' kings eager to become the masters of the world. The Gaulish forces surprisingly defeat the under-strength Roman army at the battle of the Allia before taking and sacking Rome.

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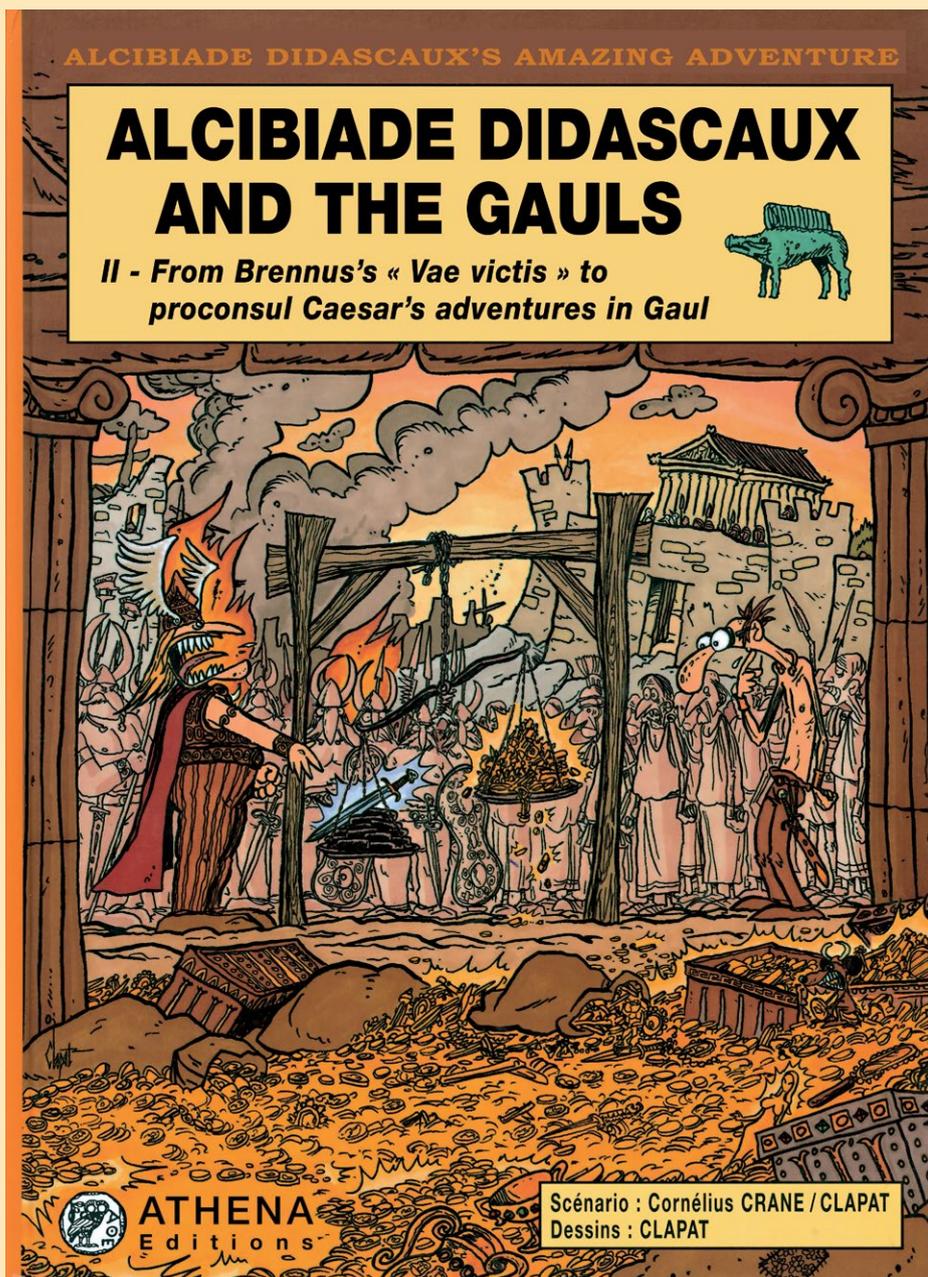
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Alcibiade Didascaux attends the taking of Rome - except the Capitol which will not be stormed by Brennus' Gauls - and the payment of the ransom, then he relates the Gaulish expedition against Delphes where another Brennus wants to plunder the sacred place where the offerings of all the Grecian cities are gathered and challenges Pythian Apollo. Alcibiade Didascaux and Musculus then give us accounts of the kingdom of the Galatians, Celts from Asia Minor, the Gauls' adventure in Egypt, Camma's beautiful love story, the frightful Gauls recruited as mercenaries all over the Mediterranean world, the ensuing Gaulish fear, the history of cisalpine Gaul and Carthaginian general Hannibal's extraordinary military expedition against Rome during the second Punic war. After discovering the empire of the powerful Arvern kings, we witness the Roman conquest of southern transalpine Gaul and the foundation of the first Roman province in Gaul : « Gallia Narbonensis ». Then we learn about the Germanic peoples, the story of the cursed gold of Toulouse and Consul Caepio's unusual fate. After witnessing fearful Cimbrian, Teutonic and Helvetian invasions, Didascaux and Musculus will travel all over Gaul in the days of Julius Caesar before following the ambitious proconsul in his Gallic wars. The book ends with a major uprising of the subjugated Gauls in the year 52 B.C. led by a new chief Vercingetorix.

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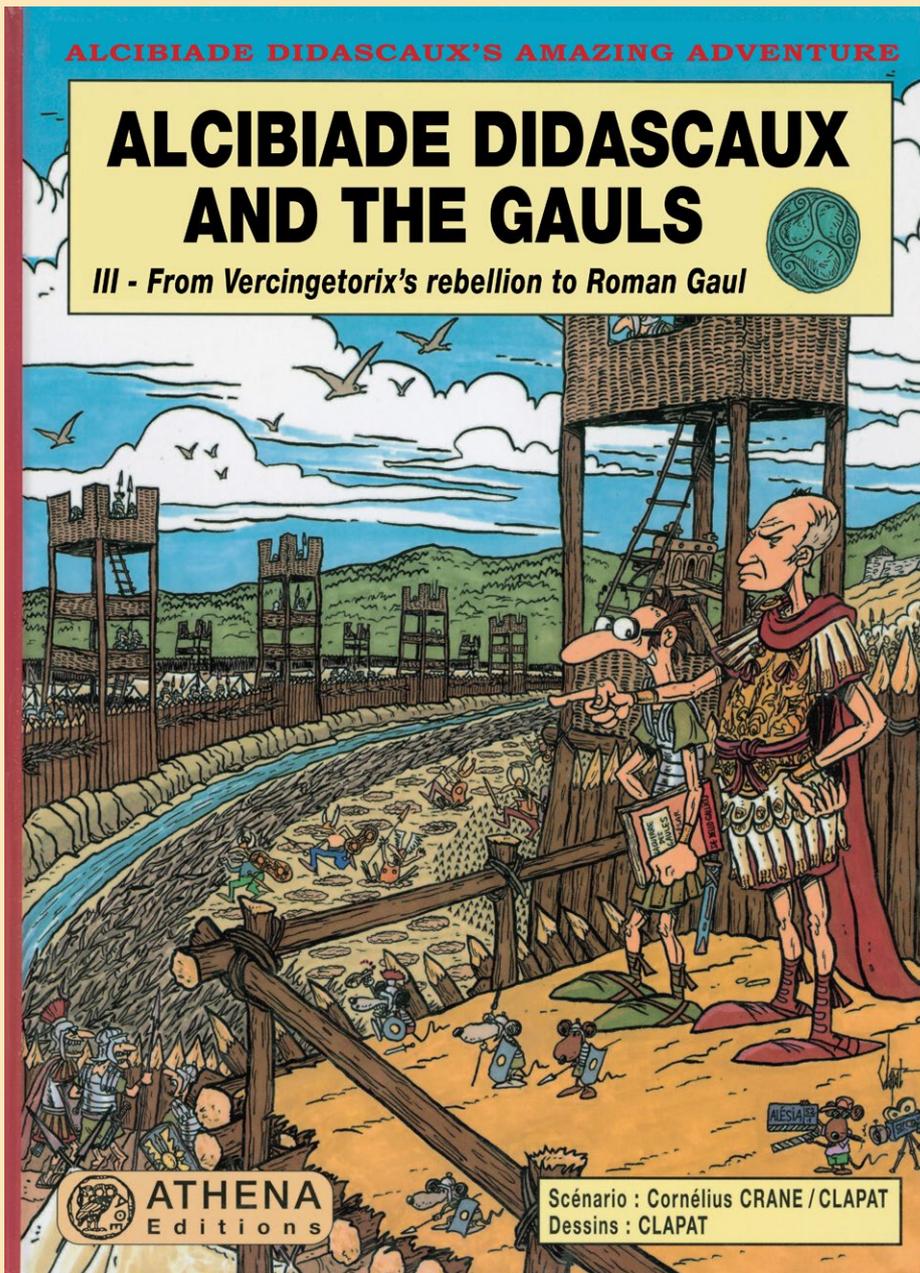
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When Caesar is in Italy and his 10 legions are entrenched in their winter camps where they are invincible, the general uprising of the Gauls starts under the leadership of Vercingetorix, the Arvern chief. Once again the revolt starts among the Carnutes, where Alcibiade Didascaux makes a very narrow escape. Caesar's quick return, his behaviour in the Roman province « Gallia Narbonensis », Velladunum, Cenabum, the famous siege of Avaricum, Gergovia, the clash between the Gaulish army and the Roman legions are steps that take us to the long siege of Alesia, Caesar's most glorious military feat, where his military genius and his legions' uncommon bravery are demonstrated. The surrender of Alesia leads to the submission of most of the Gauls but some Celtic peoples with a glorious past such as the Belgians go on fighting until their lands are ultimately pillaged and « pacified ». The longest-resisting place is Uxellodunum, a small Cadurcian city. We will learn about the obstinate efforts of the true village of indomitable Gauls who dared to challenge the Proconsul to the last.

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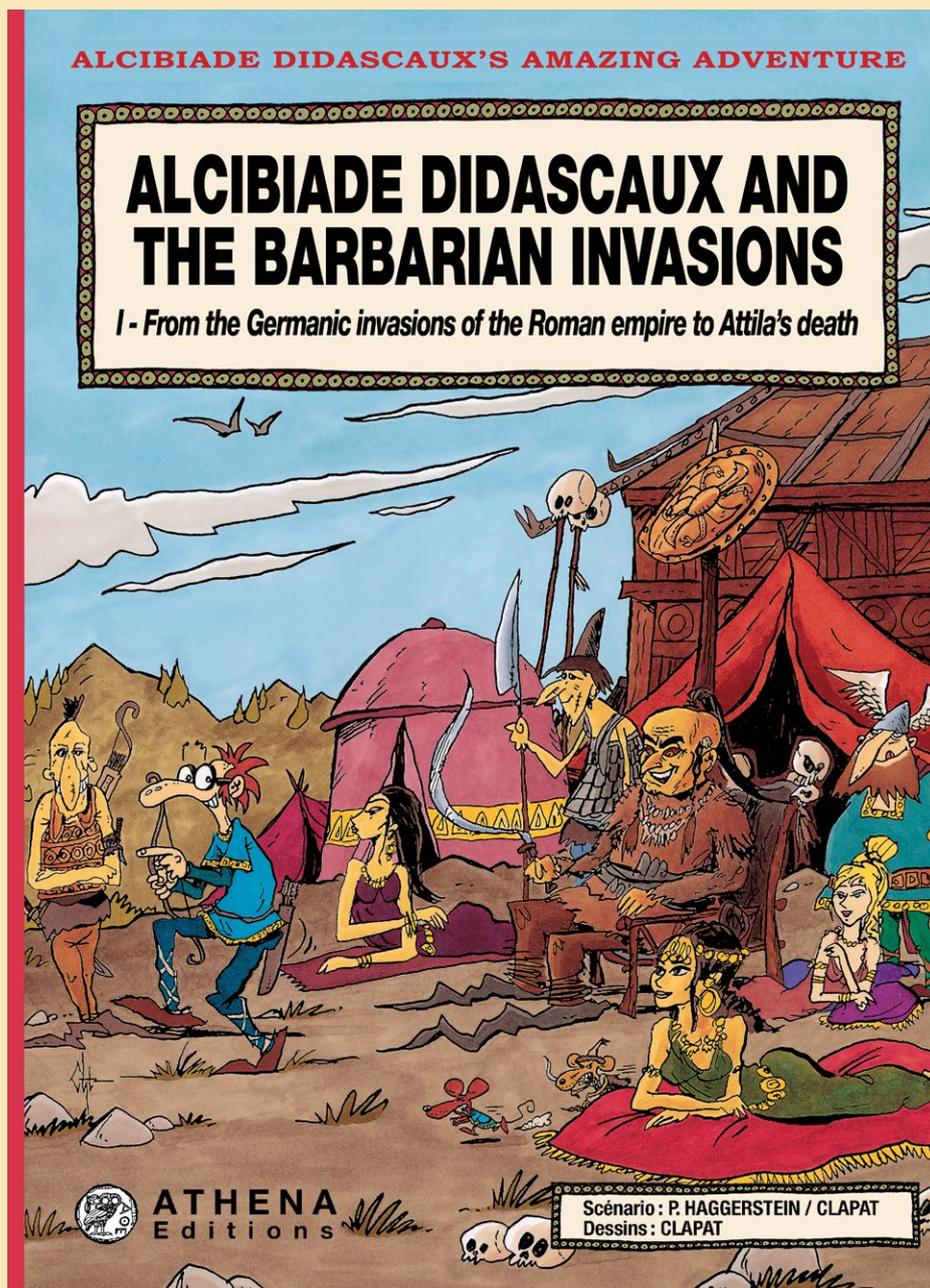
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Musculus makes investigations in order to find Alcibiade Didascaux who has lost his way in the days of the Barbarian Invasions. The famous philosopher-mouse visited the baron of Montesquieu when he was writing his « Considerations on the Causes of the Greatness of the Romans and their Decline ». So we are going to become acquainted with the Germanic tribes. We will see how Rome will solve the problem and, as we are not in « the best of all the possible worlds », how other barbaric tribes will keep weakening the Roman Empire. Now new peoples swarm into the Empire : they are Alamans, Franks, Saxons, Burgunds, Visigoths and Ostrogoths. They will put so much pressure on the Empire that they will nearly break it into pieces. The terrible defeat of Adrianople will be a significant blow for the Roman army. It is generally considered as the start of the process which will lead to the complete fall of the Roman Empire two hundred years later...

We are going to witness the taking and sack of Rome by the Visigothic king Alaric. However we are not through with the Barbarians because the Huns are coming ! Those frightful plunderers are the forerunners of the disasters that will fall on the Roman empire and gradually destroy it for ever. We will see Flavius Aetius Patricius, often called « the last of the Romans » support the Western Roman Empire and we will watch the sudden changes caused by the innumerable hordes of Huns led by their leader Attila, the Scourge of God.

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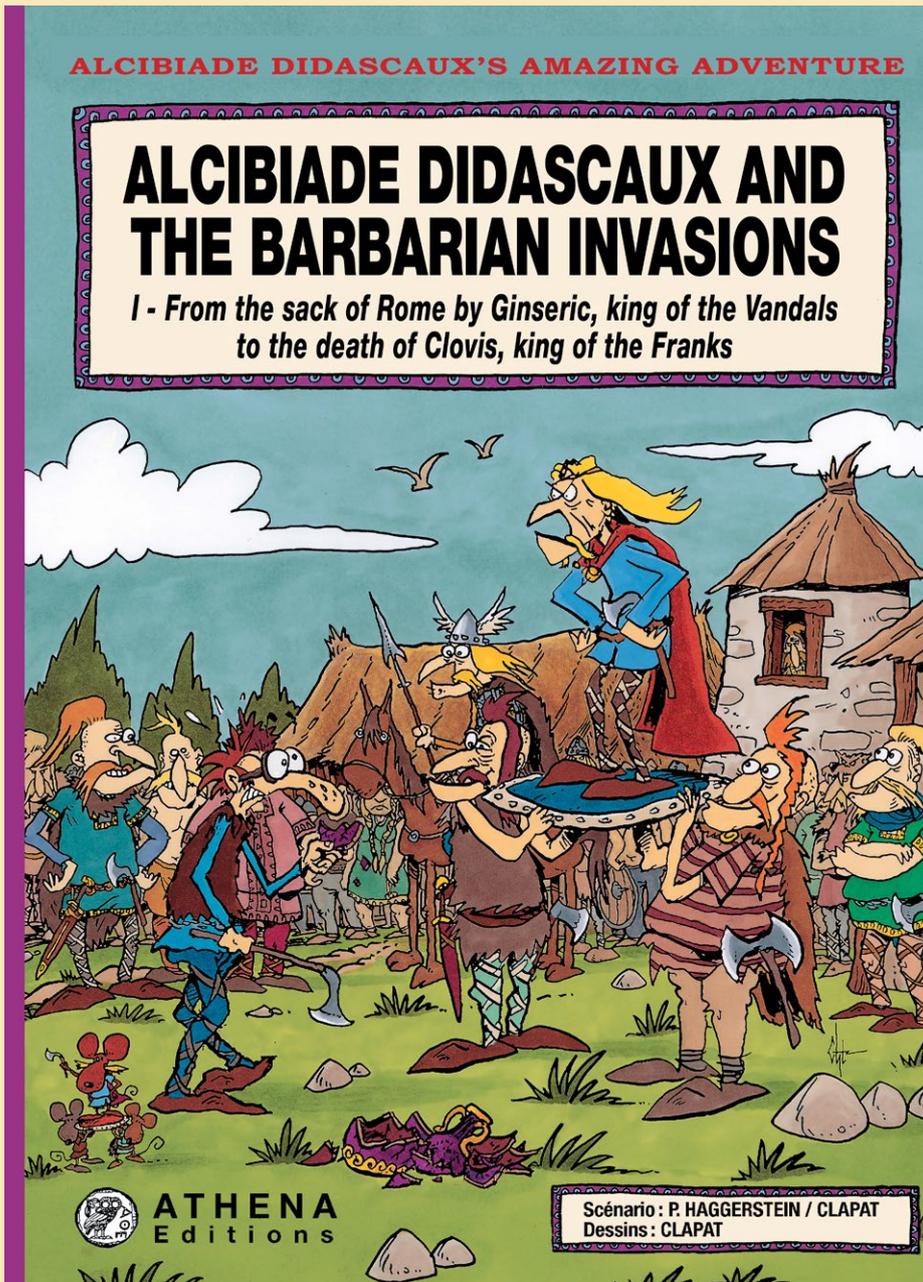
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The Roman Empire is now very different. Fighting with the Barbarians has been the main preoccupation since the second century A.D. Since emperor Constantine, the so-called Roman armies have only been made up of barbarian mercenaries. Later Julian was proclaimed emperor standing on a shield, like a Germanic king, and in the end wore the hides of animals in the Frankish manner. Theodosius was the last emperor to control the Roman Empire. When he died, the Empire was divided for ever : Constantinople became the capital of the Eastern Empire, in the Western empire the capital was transferred from Rome first to Milan and later to Ravenna. If the Eastern Empire becomes very powerful, the Western Empire collapses. In 476, the so-called virtually powerless emperor Romulus Augustulus is deposed by Skyre general Odoacer. The Visigothic kingdom is the most powerful barbarian kingdom in Western Europe. Here comes Clovis ! The king of the Salian Franks is well known for being endowed with political sense, ruthless and unscrupulous. We will witness his irresistible ascent, his fight against Syagrius, the episode of the vase of Soissons, the battle of Tolbiac, his baptism, his fights against the Burgundians and we will see how after the battle of Vouillé, Clovis will establish his total supremacy by having all the other Frankish kings murdered. The book ends in 511 after Clovis's death.

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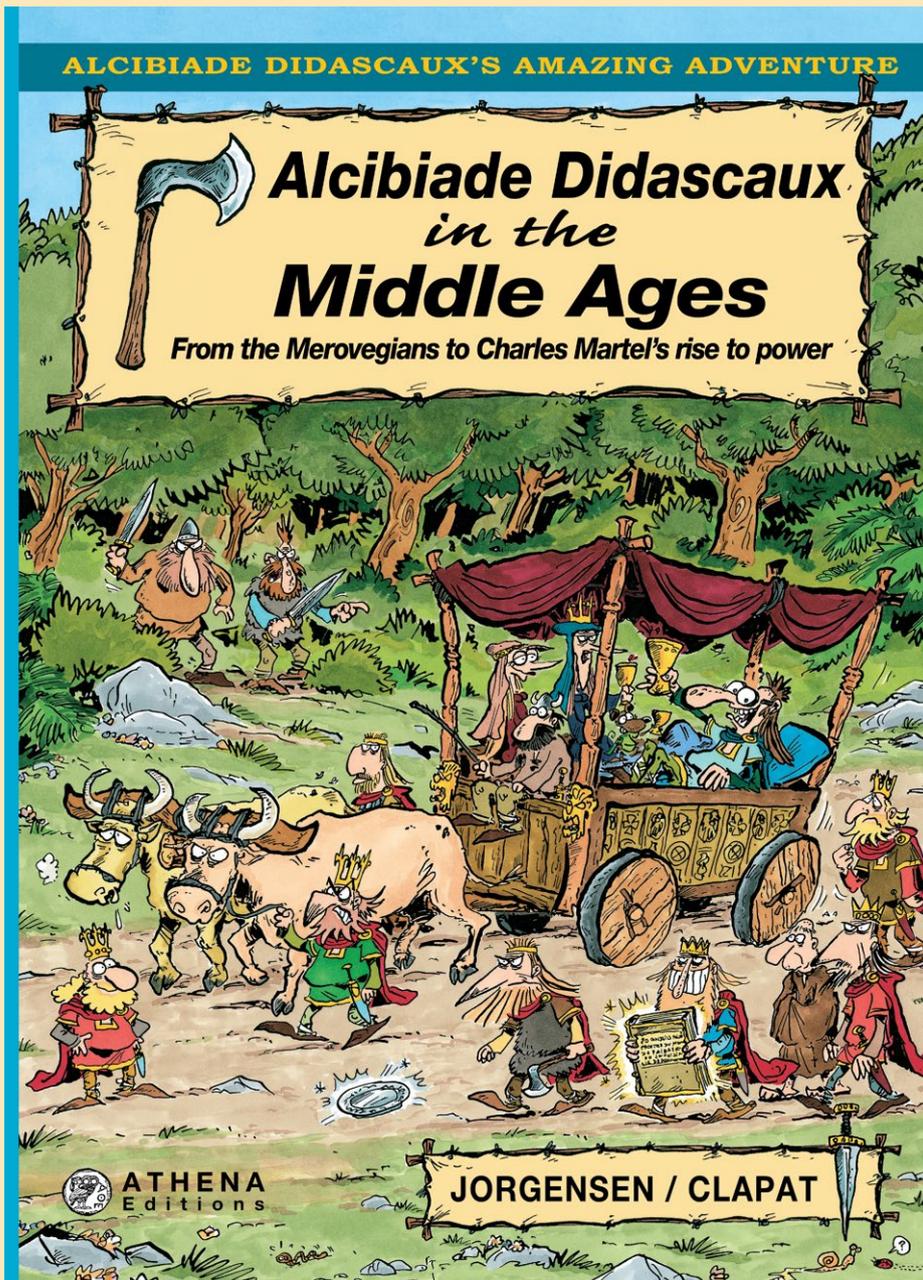
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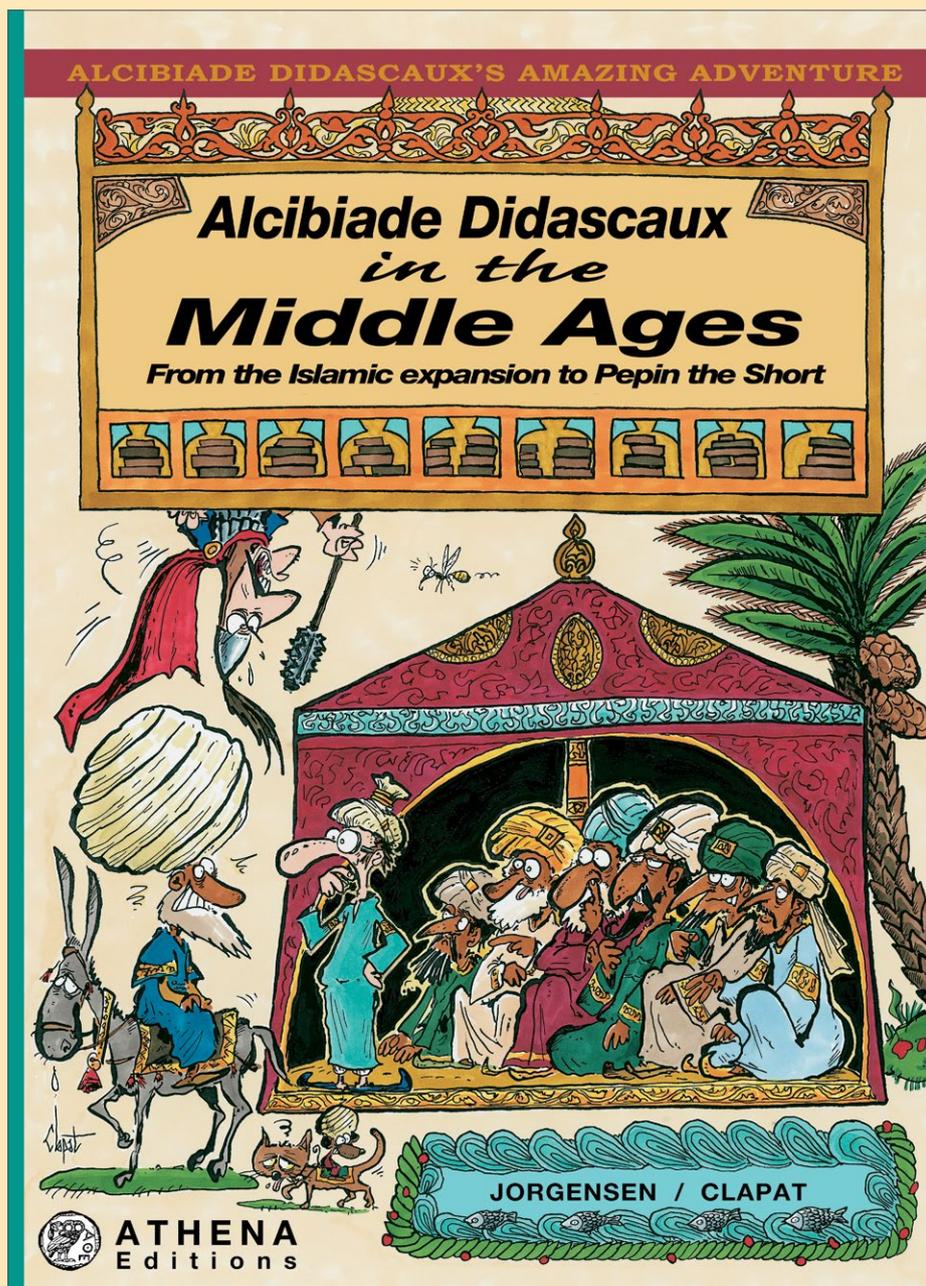
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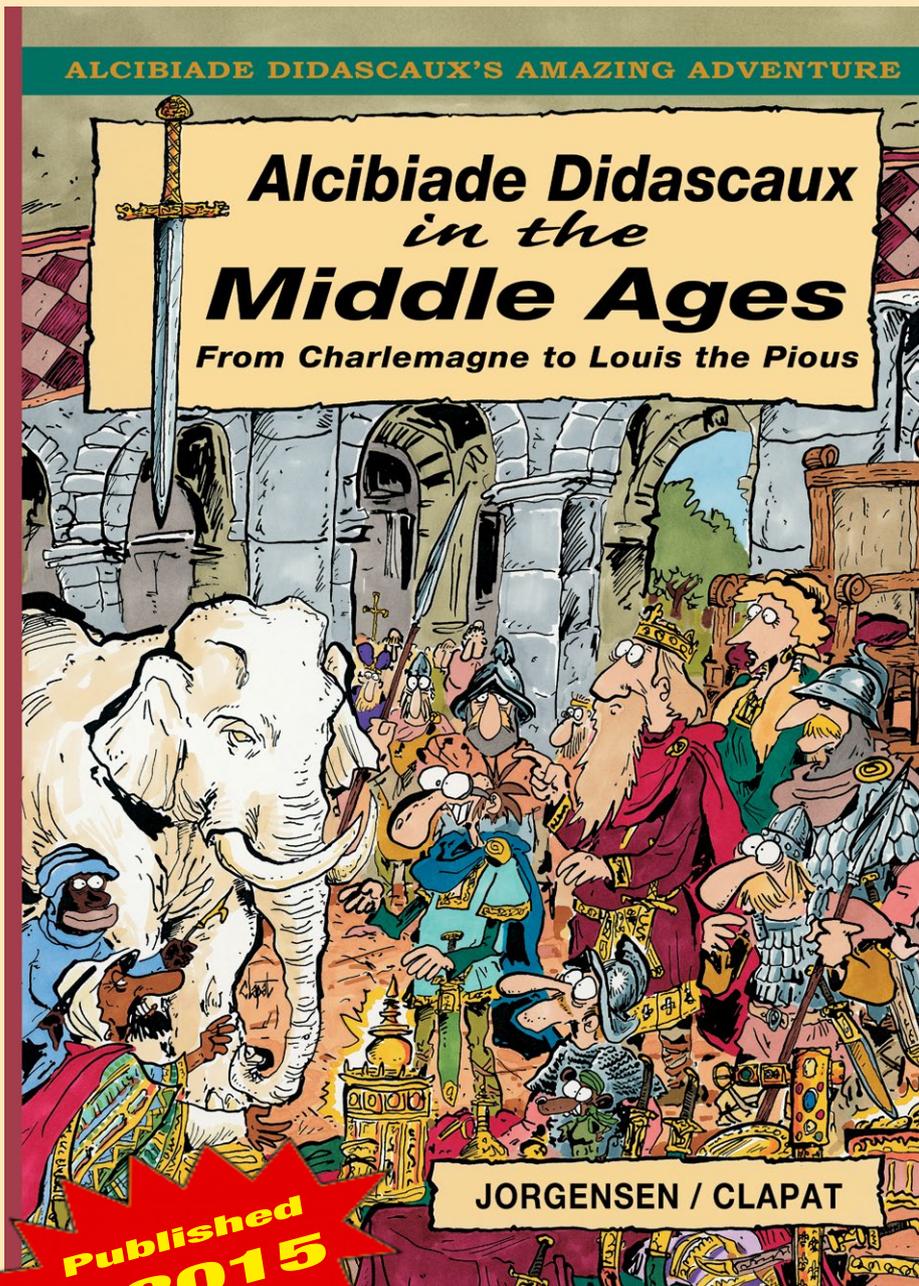
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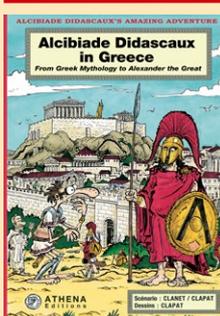


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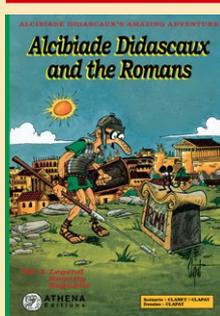
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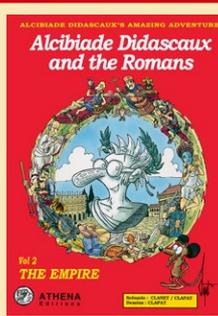
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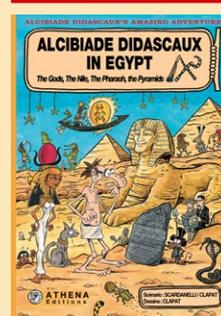
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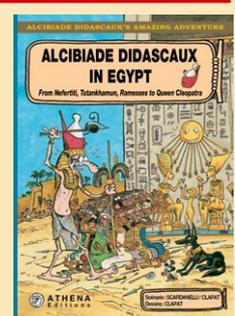
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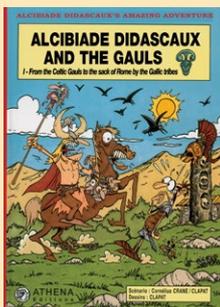
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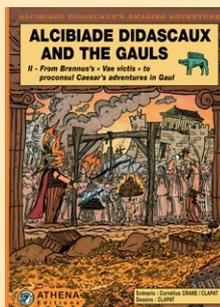
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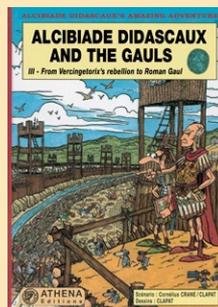
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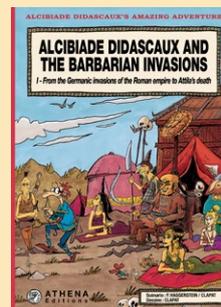
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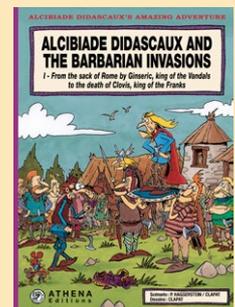
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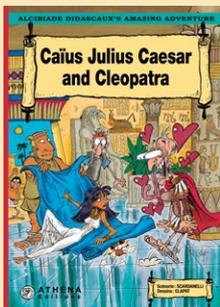
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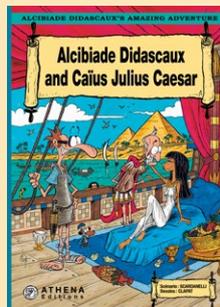
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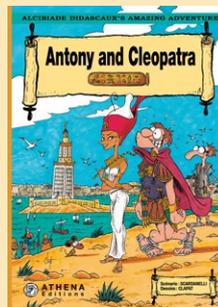
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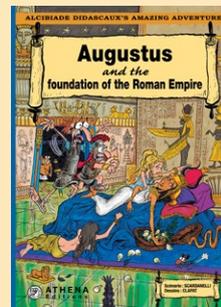
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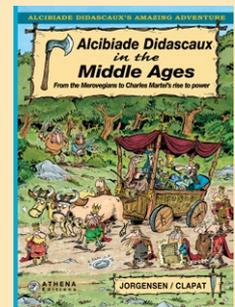
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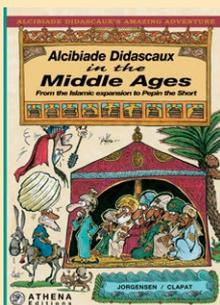
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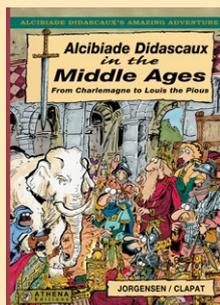
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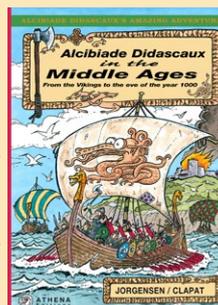
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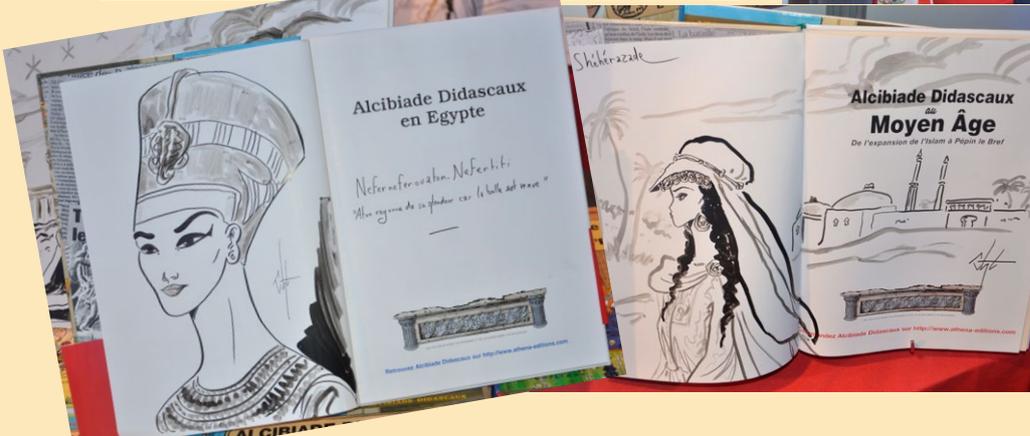
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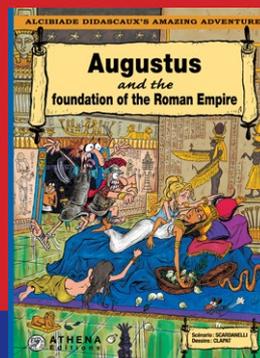
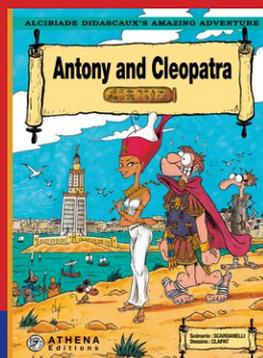
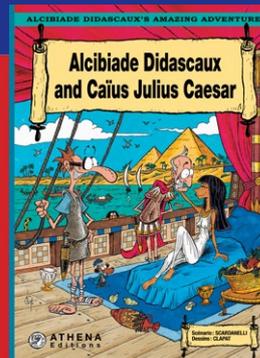
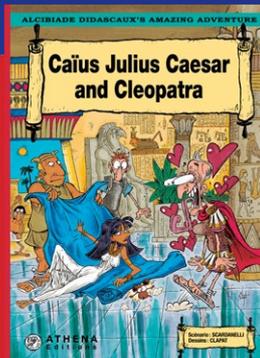
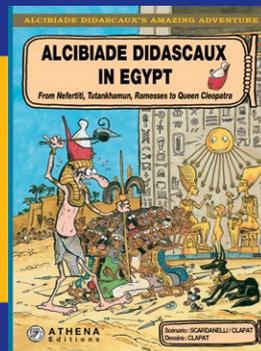
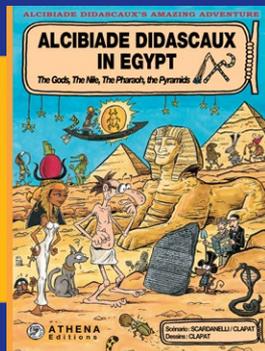
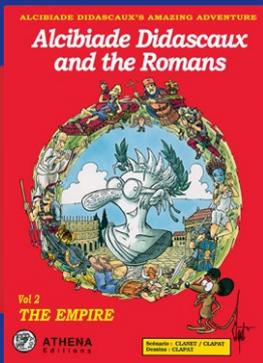
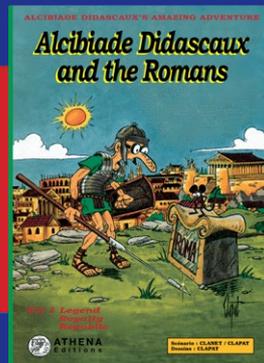
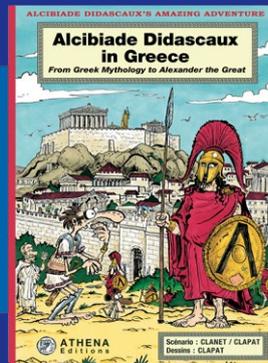


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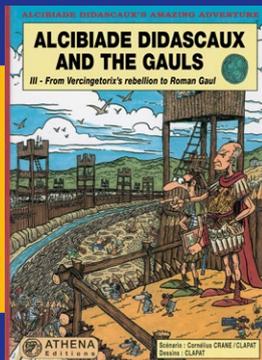
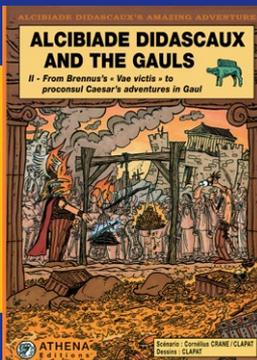
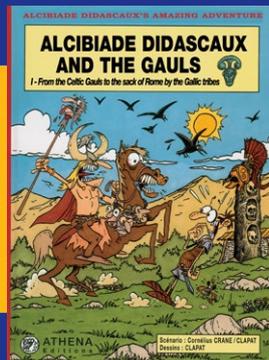
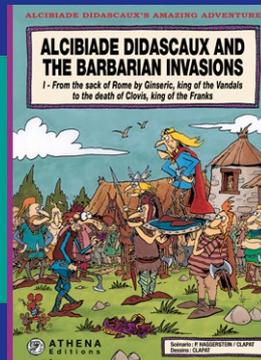
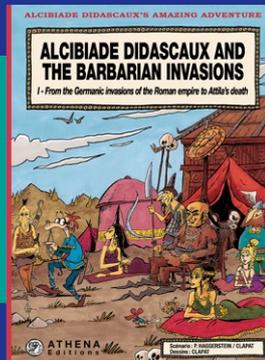
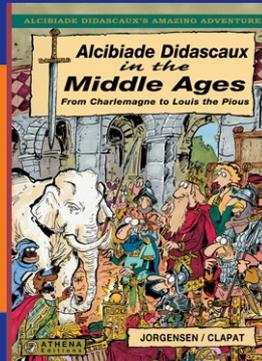
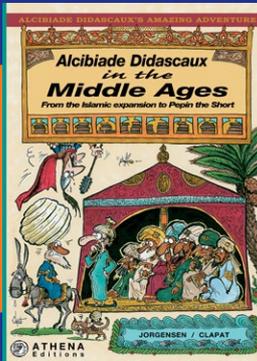
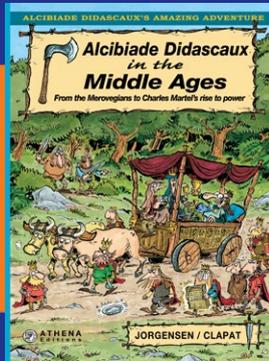
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