

The Clairvoyant Dwarf, The Jester, and the Tame Elk of Prague

by Jerry Ratch

All were part of the household of Court Astronomer Tycho Brahe
(1546-1601)

 who lost his nose in a duel as a student
 and went through life thereafter wearing a gold prosthetic one
instead
 and who met and fell in love with a commoner who bore him eight
children,

 and whose tame elk eventually died by falling down the stairs
after drinking too much

 while Brahe himself subsequently died by suffering a burst
bladder

 after a boozy dinner at court, because he was apparently too
polite
 to leave the table to relieve himself.

These are my people. The Jester was undoubtedly related, and
quite possibly

 the tame Elk as well, as many of my ilk have fallen down the stairs
of life.

 The Clairvoyant Dwarf, now that got me wondering,
 because roaming around inside my head has been a veritable
stream

 of little images all my life, and I'm guessing they are somehow
related.

And I've always been trying to tame some sort of elk throughout
my life,
though I was pretty sure it was the Wild Elk of Alcohol,
which probably lived in the forest right outside my family's castle
west of Prague. Take the train west one hour out of Prague
and you could find a sample of my genes there, if not my
unwashed levis.

