

# 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.

