

Piotr Feldman

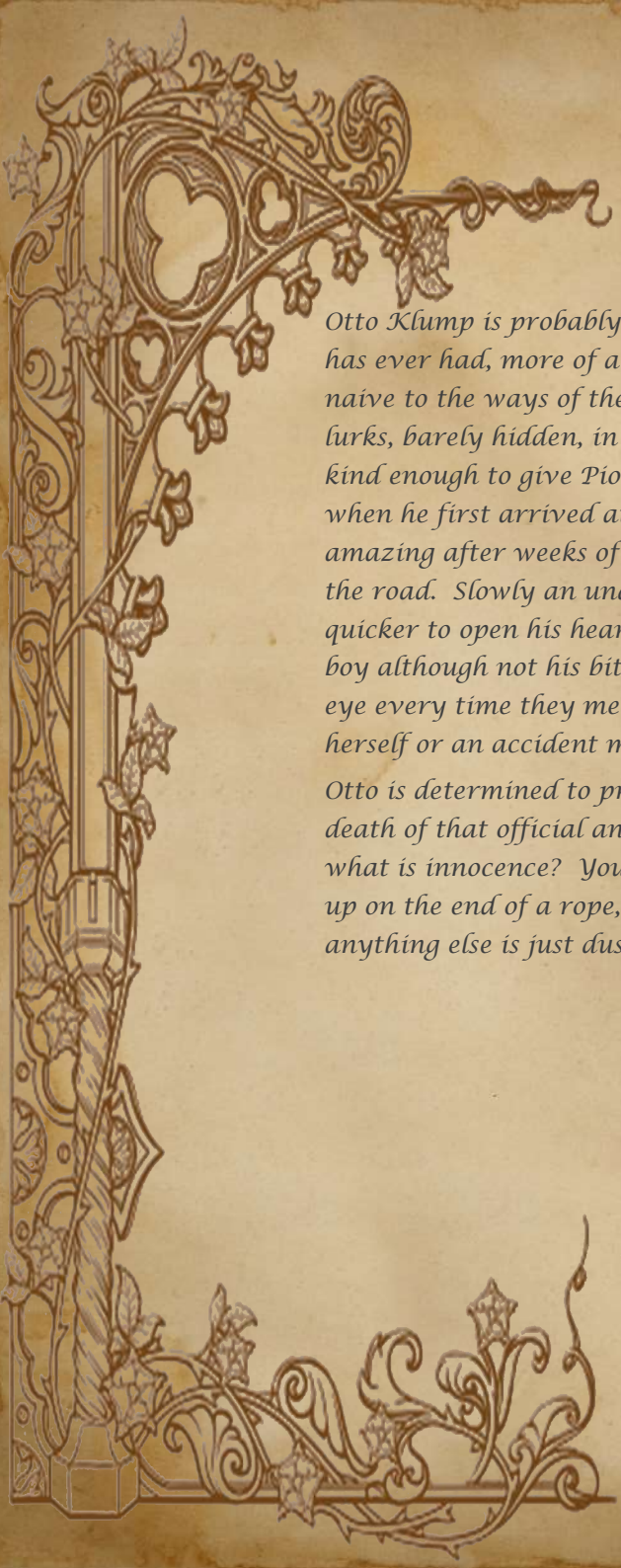
Piotr was born into a hard working peasant family in the rural back lands to the south of the empire nearly a quarter of a century ago. His family worked hard to provide as much as they could to Piotr and his four brothers and in return they expected Piotr to work just as hard. As the youngest of five boys Piotr developed a strong sense of right and wrong and a keen sense of when injustice was being met out, especially to himself. His parents also noted Piotr had many more fights with his siblings and local lads than his brothers had but thought little of it until young Rufus Wainwright was beaten bloody with a stick. Piotr remembered little of the exchange other than a rage after an argument about a shiny stone found in a river bed, to his credit he worked chores at Rufus house and took his belting well.

The punishment however did not dissuade the hot-headed youth from subsequent flare ups and as he matured these were increasingly with boys who competed with him for the attentions of the local girls



Piotr claims to this day that he was not involved in the deaths of Sammy Horsturt and his two sisters, found beaten to a pulp, his case was not helped by his being found at the scene with blood on his hands with no remembrance of what had happened. His elder brother Franc claimed to have seen beast man tracks in the area and pleaded his brothers innocence. However, mob justice is ever fickle and given Piotr's history and the rage of the Horsturt family there was no question of a trial or investigation, it was only by the skin of his teeth that Piotr escaped the rope with his life.

He has spent the last decade with the stars as a ceiling and travelled within the empire skirting civilised lands as well as people and the complications that come with them. Years have passed, wounds have healed, and time has worn the edges of memories till they are less painful to remember. Slowly Piotr has reengaged with humanity and even made a friend or two. He has plans to maybe one day break ground for himself and get a hardworking woman in to bear sons.



Otto Klump is probably as close to a friend as Piotr has ever had, more of a father figure in a way. He is naïve to the ways of the world and the cruelty that lurks, barely hidden, in most men's hearts. He was kind enough to give Piotr some work and pay in food when he first arrived at Swanzi and the cast off tasted amazing after weeks of eating plants and berries on the road. Slowly an understanding built, Otto was far quicker to open his heart than Piotr but he likes the old boy although not his bitter wife who gives him the evil eye every time they meet, that bitch had best watch herself or an accident might happen.

Otto is determined to prove his innocence after the death of that official and Piotr will help but really what is innocence? You are innocent if you don't end up on the end of a rope, you are guilty if you do, anything else is just dust in the wind.

