

Author's Notes on Watching the Flood
(Book 3: *Lord Efran at the Flood*)

For this book, I had to revert back to grayscale because the face I wanted to use was in black and white. That's a shame, because the [painting](#)¹ that inspired this illustration is a beautiful work by Frederic Leighton (1830-1896) titled *A Condottiere* (kawn duh TYAIR ee, a leader of a private force of mercenaries in Italy, especially in the 14th and 15th centuries). In fact, I wanted to use that painting in its entirety to depict Efran, but the man looks so sad, I couldn't (thumbnail below). It didn't fit; Efran was in disbelieving gratitude and wonder to see the troops attacking him get washed away.

So for Efran (on the right in my illustration) I wound up using the face of a handsome Italian actor from the 1950s named [Franco Interlenghi](#)² (en ter LENG ee. One of his movies, *Domenica d'agosto* [*Sunday in August*] in on YouTube, but it's in Italian.) He looks fairly Polonti-ish, but his expression of gratified satisfaction is why I chose him for this part.

That's Barr beside Efran, in a fabulous [suit of armor](#)³ with which Loizeaux would never outfit his slave conscripts (see thumbnail below).

Efran and Barr are on the switchback, obviously, that's rising up behind them. Efran has tossed his [helmet](#)⁴ on the retaining wall. Their weapons are out of the picture.



Robin Hardy
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1. Image by the Birmingham Museums Trust on Wikimedia Commons
2. His public domain image was uploaded to the Italian Wikimedia Common by [Gawain78](#).
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