

GRENZEN LEBEN

(Living Boundaries)

from Karin Brummel

Foreword:

Originally, I didn't want this picture to find its way to the public.

Why would I not want that?

This picture is an abstract, intimate look at my life, in which the illness has become a partner over the course of the years and with which I deal with, with respect, at eye level.

If you allow the thought, I live in a polygamous relationship:
With Wilson's disease and my partner.

Why did I then decide to change my mind and to take part in the contest with my picture?

After I was diagnosed with Wilson's disease in my childhood and after the death of my brother Rainer, I lived in a double Parent-Child relationship. My parents had their own ideas of how my future life should be and my Wilson's disease had its own ideas. So, I was forewarned what the consequences could be of not adhering to the boundaries of my parents, doctors and Wilson's disease.

This is how I grew up from a dutiful girl to a dutiful woman and through the years developed from a dutiful woman to an „Intellectual Best Ager“.

„Intellectual Best Ager“? What does that mean for me?

As a child and later as a woman, it was clear for me that if I stayed within the limitations imposed by Wilson's disease, then I could live well with the given restrictions.

As „intellectual best ager“, I naturally live within the pre-given confines of Wilson's disease. Furthermore, other aspects of living with this disease have entered my life over the years.

Wilson's disease is the way it is. There are numerous detailed reports on the negative attributes and limitations, and I too have had to experience these first hand.

I have also asked myself the question, what are the positive aspects for me of living with Wilson's disease?

Maybe the question itself is rather puzzling for one or the other person: "How can you find anything good about living with Wilson's disease???"

I discovered for myself:

It is good that I am alive!!!

It is good that, in spite of or because of Wilson's disease, I have a positive forward-looking attitude.

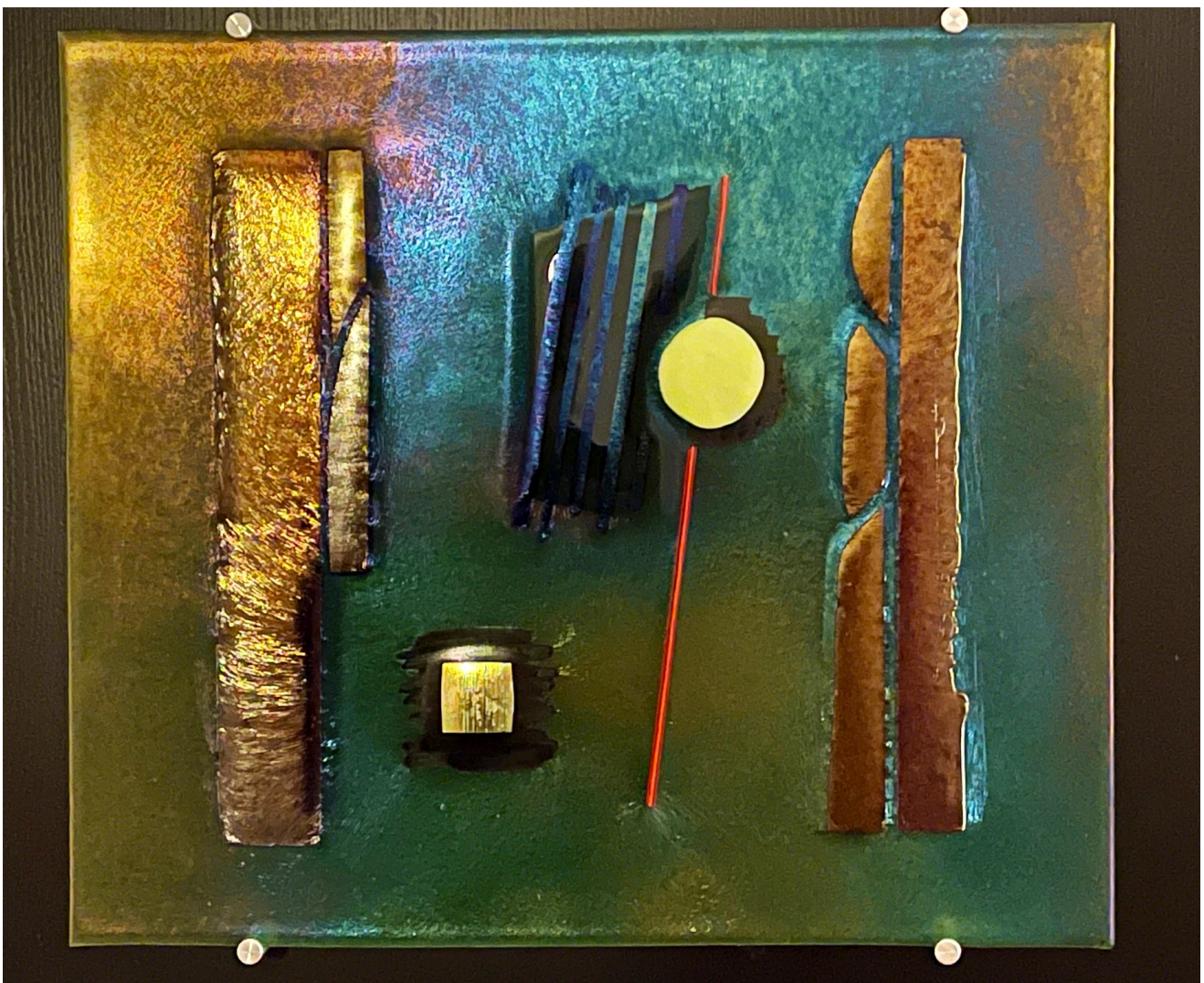
It is good to be in contact with others.

It is good to have found numerous interesting contacts with whom I can talk about what is essential in life: and that is life itself.

It is good that based on my experiences and my Wilson's network, I was able to successfully support the struggle for survival of a further brother.

It is good that Wilson's disease has given me a wider life-spectrum.

It is good that I live in the „here and now“!!!



Picture Explanation:

The picture "GRENZEN LEBEN" was created by me using the glass fusing technique.

The glass fusing technique creates a diffuse transparency through the coalescing of the different glasses with the different colours and shapes.

Figuratively speaking, a diffuse merging of Wilson's and me.

The observer may be able to recognize a three-dimensional aspect in differing lighting conditions. In order to support the three dimensionality, the picture has been fixed on the upper and lower sides with two metal spacers on the base plate. This gives the object a better sense of depth.

The picture is intended, on the one hand, to represent my positive and upwards oriented attitude towards life (red line) with the bright, shining life-light (large yellow spot), and on the other hand, the rigid restrictions the illness means for my actions (copper-coloured full stripes left and right) which I have sometimes tried to break through (broken copper stripes left and right). In addition, the copper-coloured bulging, structured stripes / limits are intended to represent my non-homogenous copper-soaked liver.

There are no limitations above or below - there were no limits when I was born
and my future is still open.

The medication is like an elixir of life for me (golden square). I have located
this in the lower section of the picture as my essential tablets have
accompanied me since my childhood – at the beginning of my life-line - and
only due to them is it possible for my life-light to shine.