

**Ryan Gervenak**

579-20, 580-20

*Isolated with Hope, Where I Live*

ISOLATED WITH HOPE: With attempts to develop an impressionist style, I became overwhelmed with gratitude for Prison Creative Arts Project. I am isolated from society but look forward every year to painting for the art show. What new image will come forth? Can I increase my skill in some new way? Will I be able to connect with anyone who views my work? I find hope of new life in the questions unanswered until the next summer. The tree is by itself and looks as though it had a rough time growing. At the same time, there is beauty all around. With every new day there is hope of more beauty, original and previously unknown even in isolation.

WHERE I LIVE: Last year Graham mentioned Frank Lloyd Wright's "Falling Water." I considered how to integrate Wright's work into my own because he is my favoured architect. If I could have my choice in homes to live, Falling Water would be the top of my list. Again, I worked to include an impressionist style here and the colorful sky. The thought arrived that the prison experience leads itself to fantasy. My fantasy is on canvas where I live. As I work the painting, I live in the fiction and the work of brush stroke, color, and composition.