

Lorenz, L. S. (May, 2008). *Living with Brain Injury: The Survivor's View*. Fourth International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry. Urbana-Champaign, IL: University of Illinois, May 14-17.

Abstract. This photo elicitation study of lived experience with brain injury asked adult brain injury survivors to take photographs of living with brain injury from their perspective and talk about them with me. Their resulting visual narratives are evocative portrayals that resist current medical models for rehabilitation from brain injury, engage us in their contexts, and make us feel. Each narrative is a series of images and their interview texts centered on a common theme. A newly injured respondent shows us the disorder in his life and his frustrations around food—buying, storing, preparing, and tasting it. A survivor injured four years ago engages us in her ongoing struggle to reconcile what she calls the “darkness and light” of her life. A third, whose injury occurred 17 years ago, relates a narrative of identity in which she speaks in a “chorus of voices” as chef, gardener, librarian, and brain injury survivor.

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