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Art, Language And Silence: On The Basis of Ludwig Wittgenstein's Philosophy and Iris Murdoch's Novel *Under the Net*

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The author considers Wittgenstein's thesis from his *Tractatus logico-philosophicus*: "ethics and aesthetics are one" (6.421) in the light of three statements which can be found in his Notebooks 1914–1916: "Art is a kind of expression"; "The work of art is the object seen sub specie aeternitatis; and the good life is the world seen sub specie aeternitatis. This is the connection between art and ethics"; and "Life is serious, art is gay." Next, the author approaches Iris Murdoch's novel *Under the Net* in terms of Wittgenstein's thesis that ethics and aesthetics are one because both belong to the sphere of what cannot be said and what can only be demonstrated. This novel was inspired by Wittgenstein's philosophy expounded in his *Tractatus...* as well as by himself as a mentor for many students of philosophy, including Murdoch herself.