

Cloud Formations: Cumulus & Cirrus

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Cloud Formations: Cumulus & Cirrus is a creative project that combines works of prose and poetry produced in Creative Writing (FA2024), Poetry Workshop (WI2025), and personal writing sessions.

Cumulus: In Constant Transformation explored themes of home and sense of place, largely rooted in physical descriptions, and was heavily influenced by a month-long trip to the Philippines in the summer of 2024. It contained fiction, such as “I Breathe, Therefore I Think,” a 963-word short story told in the perspective of a flower reflecting on life. It also contained creative nonfiction, such as “Anong iniisip nila?” (English translation: “What are they thinking of?”), a 620-word poem in the form of a list of 40 questions wondering if trees in the Philippine countryside were sentient.

Cirrus (in progress) deals with internal conflicts of doubt and courage, seeks to find comfort in the illogical, and is an open exploration of the art of poetry. Most of these works are creative nonfiction, such as “Architect,” a 280-word poem describing a city formation on a bedroom floor.

Cloud Formations will refine all literary works written in the past five months and the following months leading up to Honors Day. These collection titles take on the shapes of clouds to touch on their ever-evolving existence, much like the emotions, thoughts, and stories we tell of ourselves and the fictional worlds we seek solace in. There is uncertainty in them, but they are beautiful, nonetheless.

The project will be presented in the form of a book and include original artwork (drawings, paintings, and photographs), and it will be personally designed to bring out the strengths of all its pieces. In a presentation-type of session for Honors Day, the student will read and discuss the making of 3 selected works and hand out a few physical copies for audience members that want them.