This image was taken at the end of the day after a tumultuous afternoon of rumbling thunderstorms. It was shot while driving west on the way to Lyons. There is a story of emotion behind this image as it was taken on the way to a wedding of a friend. Thunderstorms on a wedding day seem like "bad luck" however this image symbolizes the turmoil of young love and the excitement of it at the same time. The colors are cool yet inviting, tempting and lead the viewer to ask what happened what is happening and what is going to happen. All questions applied to the technical and emotional part of human life.

The Skew-T graph indicates that the clouds where unstable because the temperature line (thin black one) is at a greater angle and is at a higher temperature then the line to the right,.... The temperature ascends and meets the dew point twice therefore clouds where formed at two different heights within 2000 meters of each other creating two layers and an unstable atmosphere. The over all average of the day's temperature was 73 degrees Fahrenheit and an average humidity of about 43 percent. The predicted sky cover was about 60 percent, although throughout the day clouds where scattered and or isolated based on moving thunderstorms so sunshine was not missed in surrounding areas. The highest wind speed recorded for this day was 26 knots from the north with a high record gust at 32 knots; an average of 7.9 knots throughout the day.

More specifically (using the cloud atlas indicator) the image describes nimbostratus clouds, and an emergence of stratocumulus

simultaneously showing the instability after a few thunderstorms and also during some last minute drizzle.

The only source of light for this image was natural light. The field of view was infinite and the distance from the clouds to me was between 3000 meters and 5000 meters based on the Skew T graph from September 3rd at around 3 o'clock pm. The actual picture was taken around 5 pm using a Nikon Digital SLR D50 with a 28 mm to 100 mm lens and it was shot at 1/60 of a second at F-4. The lens had a polarizing filter attached to it, decreasing glare and in this case exaggerating the tint of the cloud from white and dark gray to a pinkish hue and dark purple. Photoshop was not used on this image. The image was not cropped and has its original size of 2000 by 3008 pixels.

I feel the intent of my image was shown. Coming from an art perspective my visions usually have to do with the beauty of chaos, irony and the "dark side" of things. I find that is has a painteresque quality and assumes an ambiguous medium. I like the abstract color and sense of movement that are created because of that. In addition, I liked the adventure and spontaneity of searching for clouds and shooting whenever possible. It was hard to choose just one image for this project. I look forward to the next cloud assignment. I would like to improve my next cloud image by researching the weather in advance and go to where the most treacherous storms are forming. I find those clouds more visually pleasing than others.

QuickTime™ and a TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor are needed to see this picture.

Every Cloud Has a Sliver Lining



Brittany Moore Cloud Project Flow Visualization Hertzberg/Sweetman October 2007