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# Sketches: Cloudpost

Magic Arcana  
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Welcome to another edition of [Sketches](#). This week we look at Martina Pilcerova's mysterious piece that became *Mirrodin's* "Land — Locus," **Cloudpost**. While the land gains power in multiples, the art is beautiful all by itself.

## 1. Art Description

These instructions were given to Martina for the piece:

"Location: In the sky

Action: A strange force bubble affixed to the underside of a cloud. Although we see no one inside the bubble right now, it is used as an observatory to watch the land below.

Focus: The magical force bubble on the underside of the cloud

Mood: Mysterious"

Before we focus on what the card concept might mean to *Mirrodin's* storyline, let's look at the sketch.

## 2. Sketches

Martina came up with this initial sketch:

Cloudpost sketch 1

The sketch shows the opaque "force bubble," breaching a formation of clouds in a way that makes the clouds themselves seem to leer down at the plane far below. The concept is otherworldly, and the art even more so. The sketch was approved without revision.

But in terms of **Magic** continuity, what exactly is going on in this picture? Who's the mysterious watcher? Who's maintaining this outpost in the clouds? The flavor text suggests that even the ancient trolls of Tel-Jilad know of this watcher, so he or she must be integral to *Mirrodin's* deep history.

## 3. Final Art

Here's **Cloudpost's** final art. You can see that the tendrils reaching around the bubble are more clearly made of cloud-stuff, and the bubble itself is shaded to appear even more eyelike.

Cloudpost final art

It's difficult to tell from the size of a regular **Magic** card, but the piece is awash in detail of the fantastic landscape of *Mirrodin's* sky.

The inhabitants of *Mirrodin* have [wondered](#) about the purpose of their existence for centuries. Martina Pilcerova has provided a piece of the puzzle, but we'll have to wait until *Darksteel* and *Fifth Dawn* release to uncover the entire mystery.

## 4. Card

Here is the card as you can see it in booster packs.



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