



I wanted this piece to focus on the good in Cystic Fibrosis. Although it can be hard to see any positives in Cystic Fibrosis, what you learn and gain from this experience is something to embrace. Throughout my many hospital stays, I collected and held onto every card I was given. Each card filled with words of encouragement to keep me going even when it felt like there was no point. The beads that line each cloud are called "Bravery Beads. Bravery Beads were an incentive program for patients who needed blood draws, shots, procedures and major surgeries. Over the past 20 years I have earned quite the collection to be proud of. Without the support of my friends and family and the creative ways hospital staff kept things fun, I wouldn't be here today to enjoy my colorful life I have made for myself.