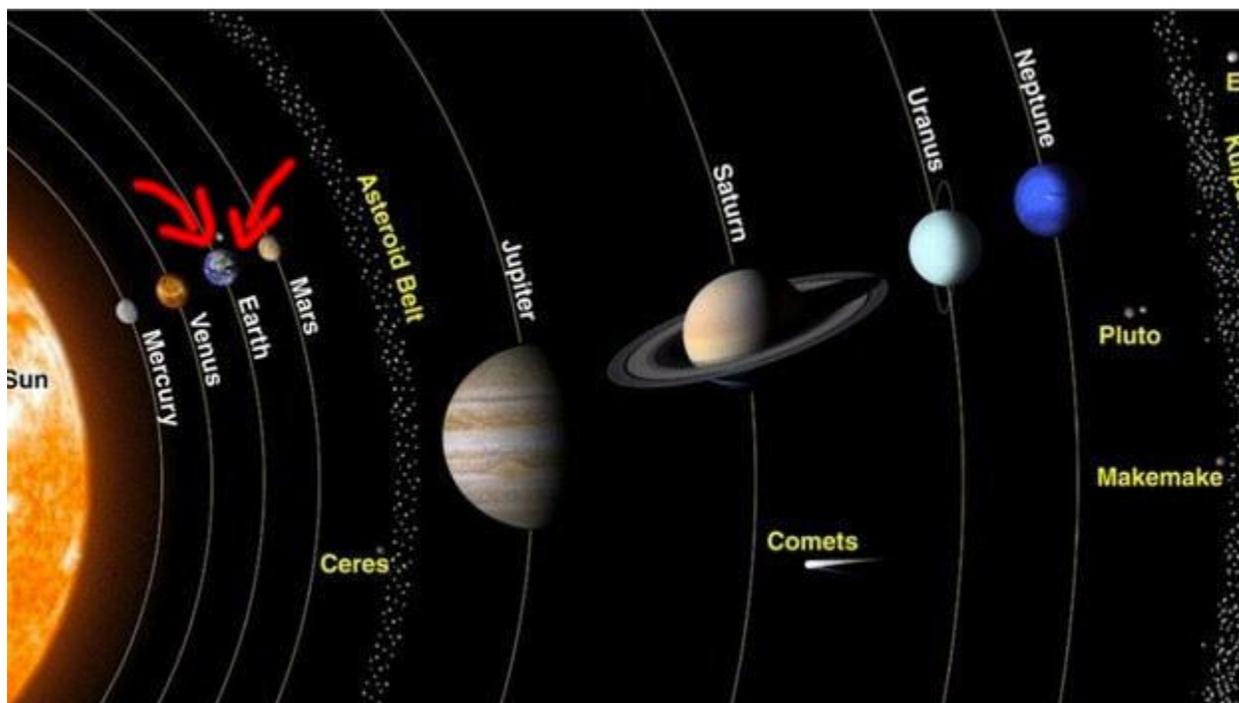


1. This is the Earth! This is where you live.



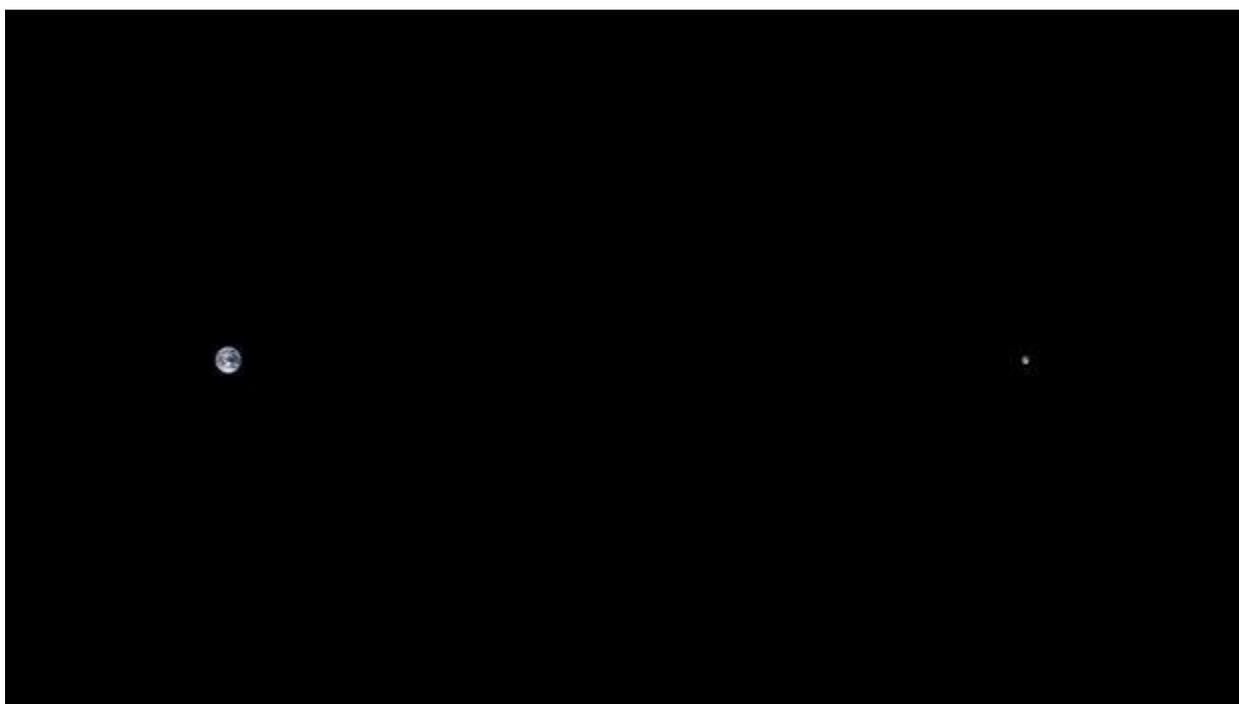
NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Image / Via visibleearth.nasa.gov

2. And this is where you live in your neighborhood, the solar system.

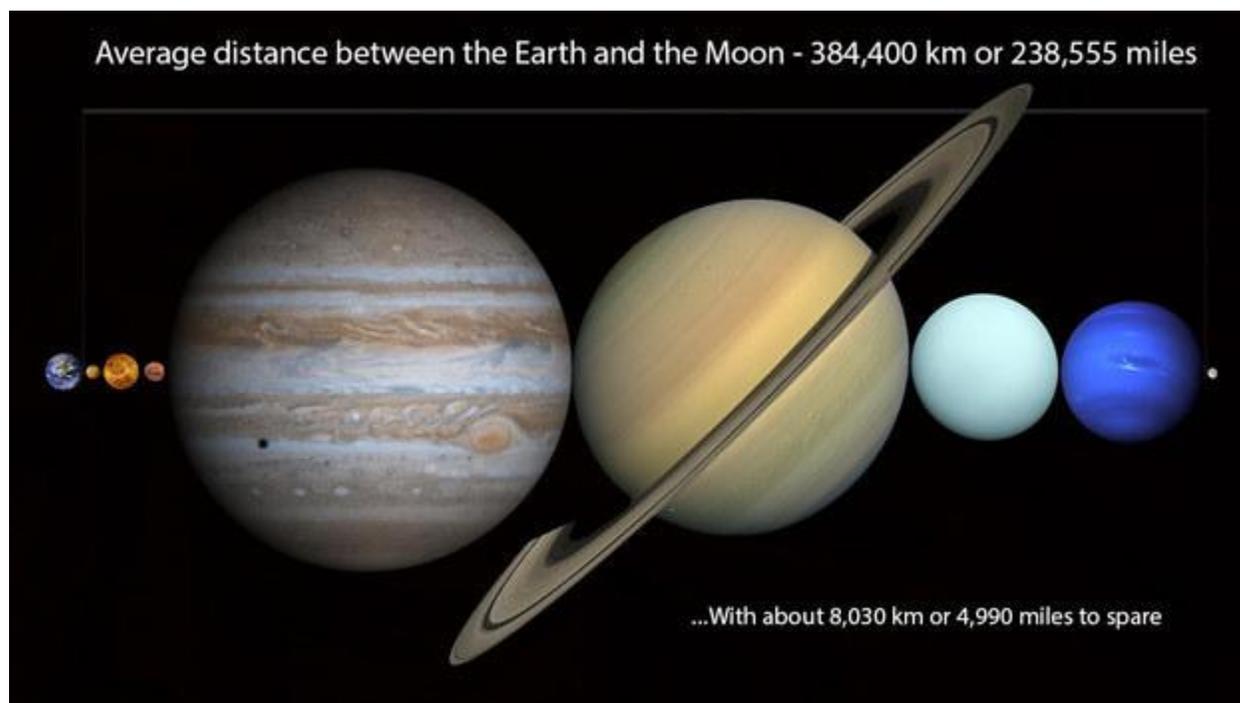


Via foxnews.com

3. Here's the distance, to scale, between the Earth and the moon. Doesn't look too far, does it?



4. THINK AGAIN. Inside that distance you can fit every planet in our solar system, nice and neatly.



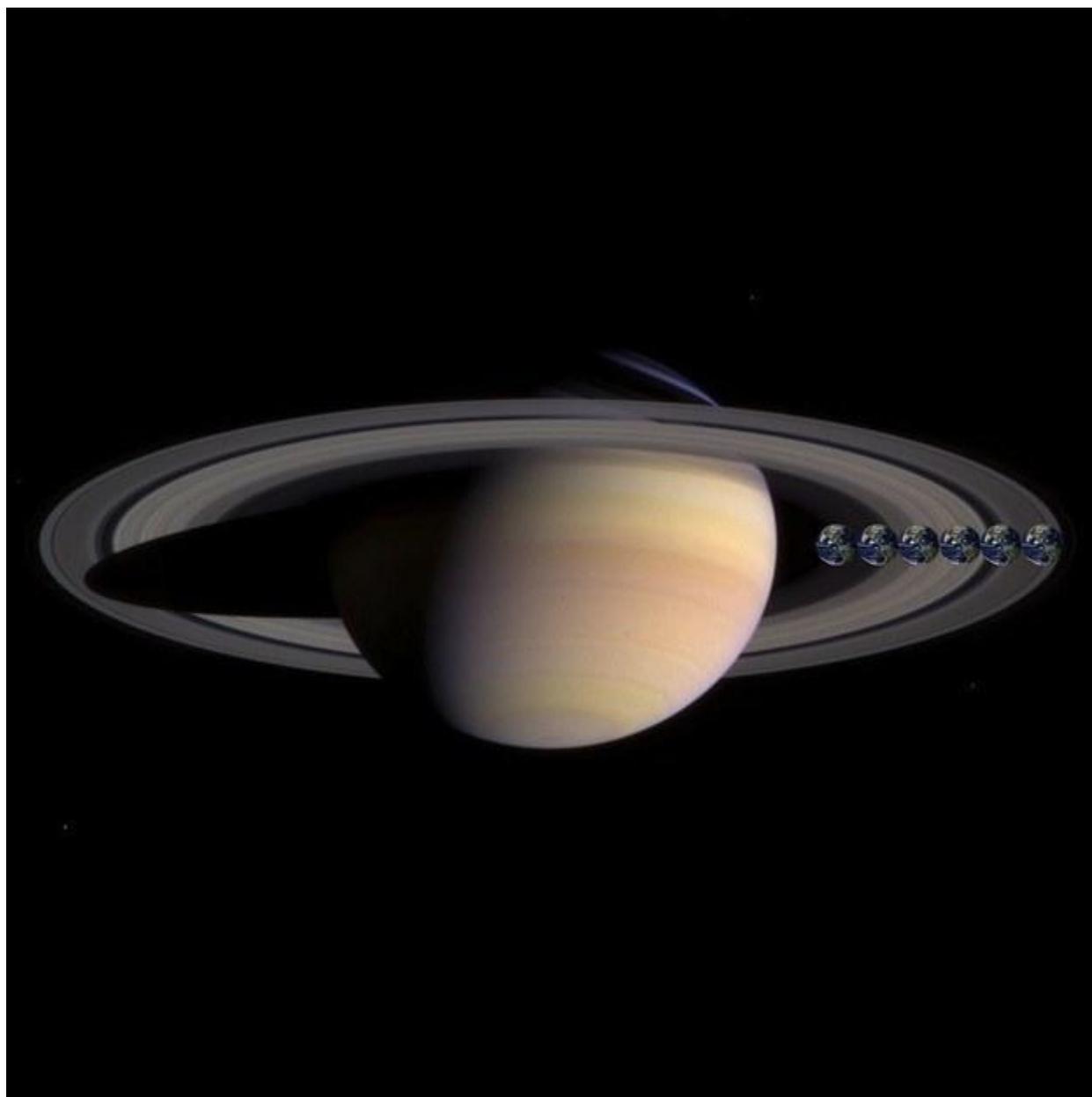
PerplexingPotato / Via [reddit.com](https://www.reddit.com)

5. But let's talk about planets. That little green smudge is North America on Jupiter.



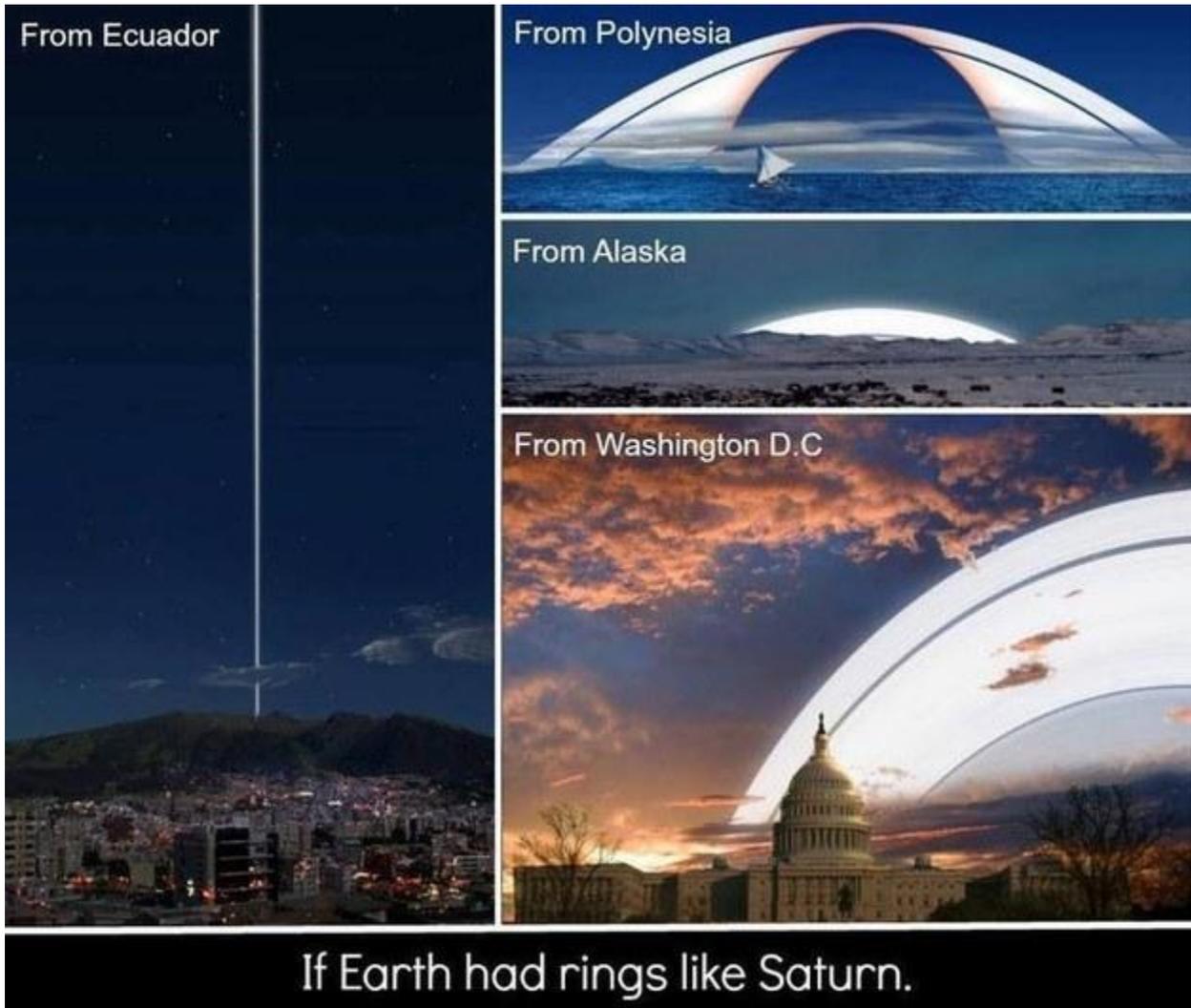
NASA / John Brady / Via astronomycentral.co.uk

6. And here's the size of Earth (well, six Earths) compared with Saturn:



NASA / John Brady / Via astronomycentral.co.uk

7. And just for good measure, here's what Saturn's rings would look like if they were around Earth:



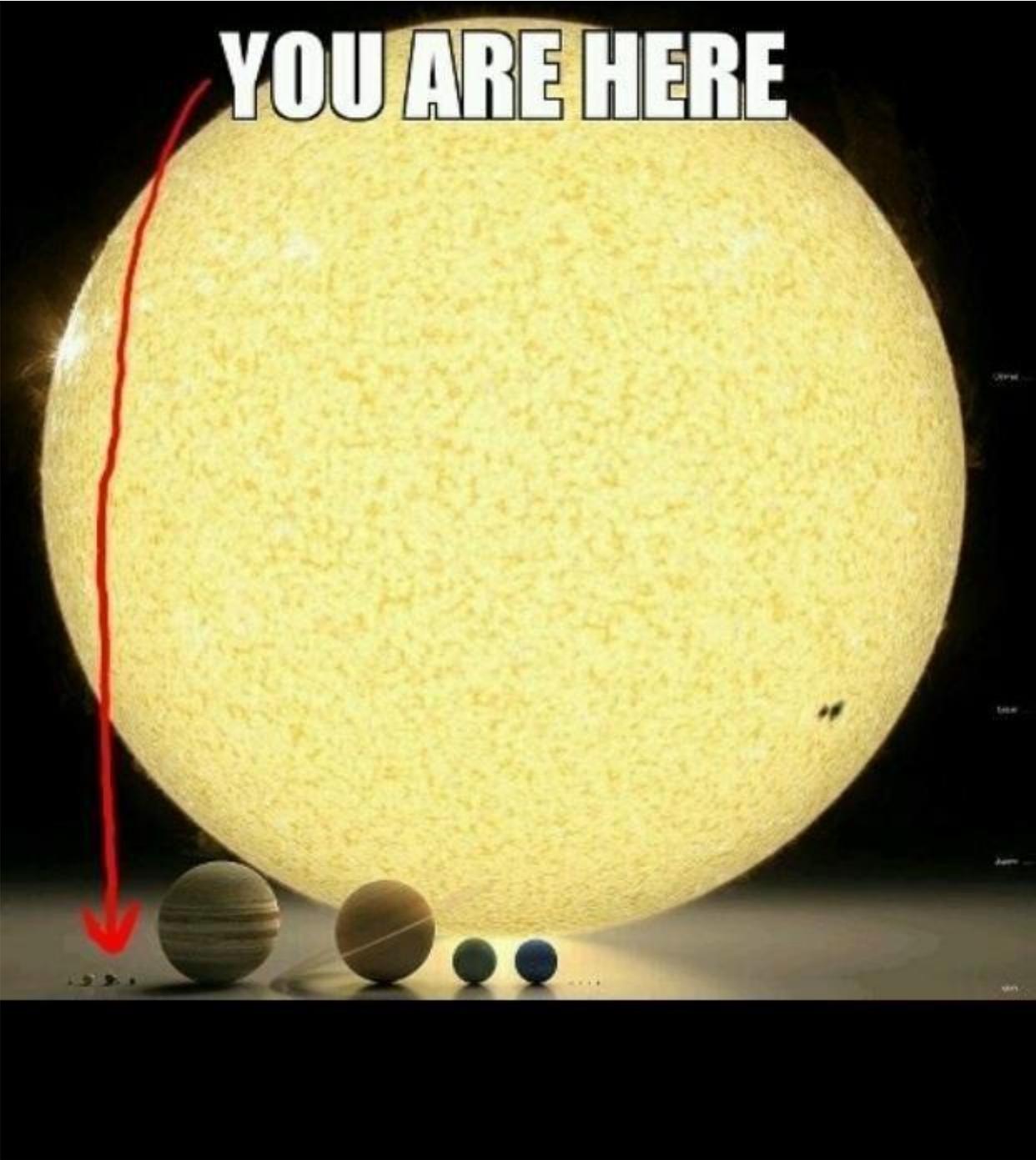
Ron Miller / Via io9.com

8. This right here is a comet. We just landed a probe on one of those bad boys. Here's what one looks like compared with Los Angeles:



Matt Wang / Via mentalfloss.com

9. But that's nothing compared to our sun. Just remember:



Via [Twitter: @maiwandafghani](https://twitter.com/maiwandafghani)

10. Here's you from the moon:



NASA

11. Here's you from Mars:



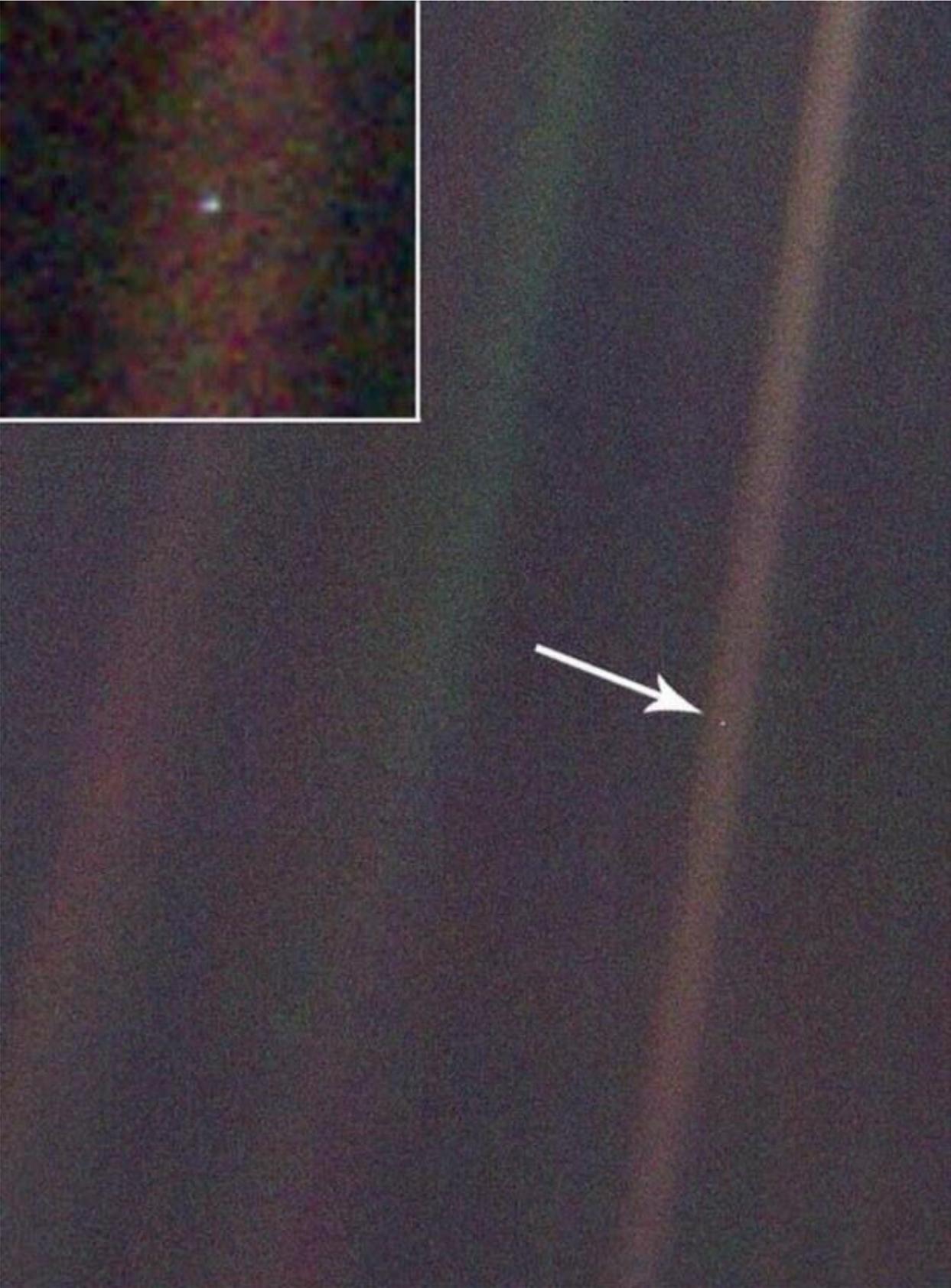
NASA

12. Here's you from just behind Saturn's rings:



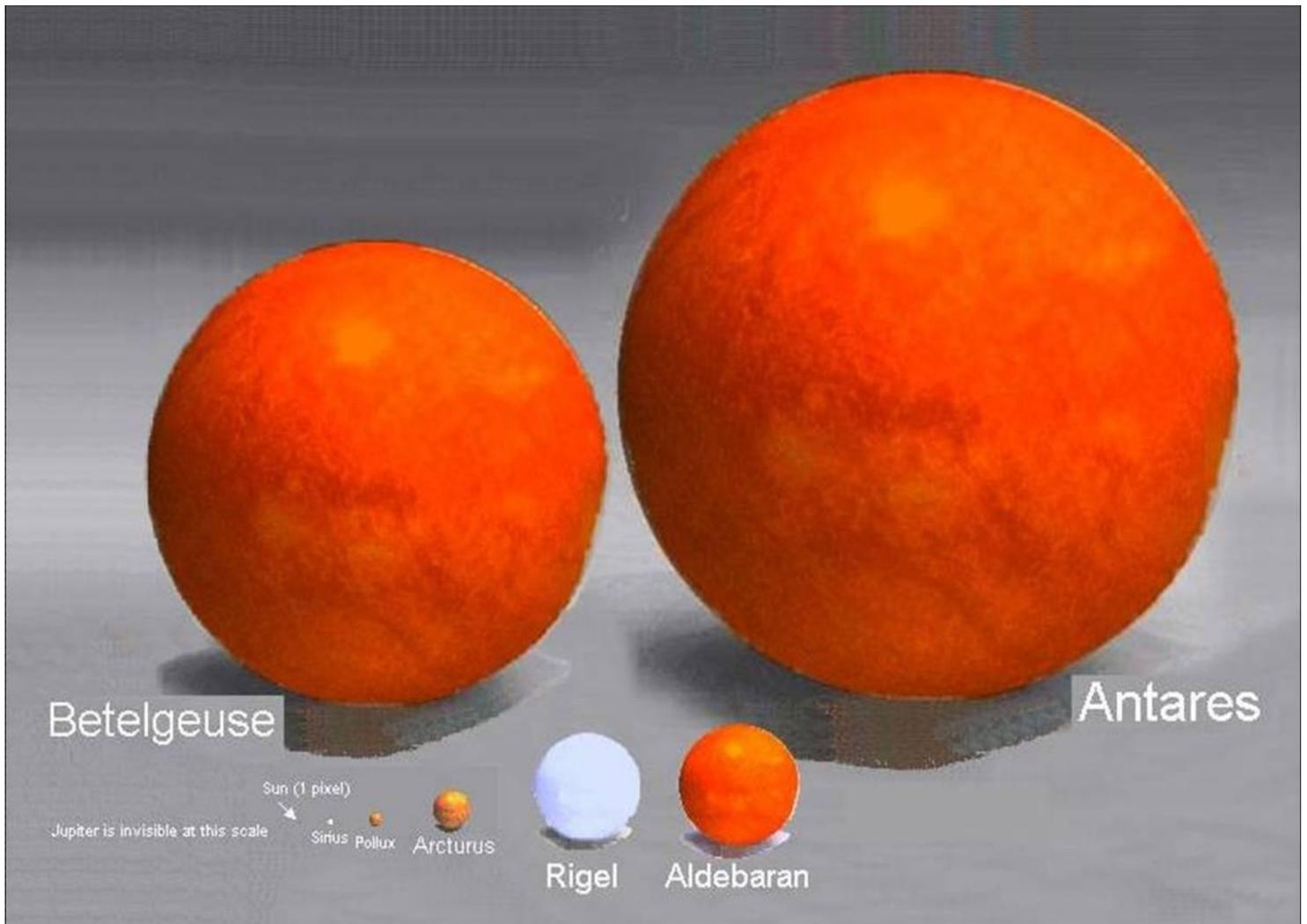
NASA

13. And here's you from just beyond Neptune, 4 billion miles away.

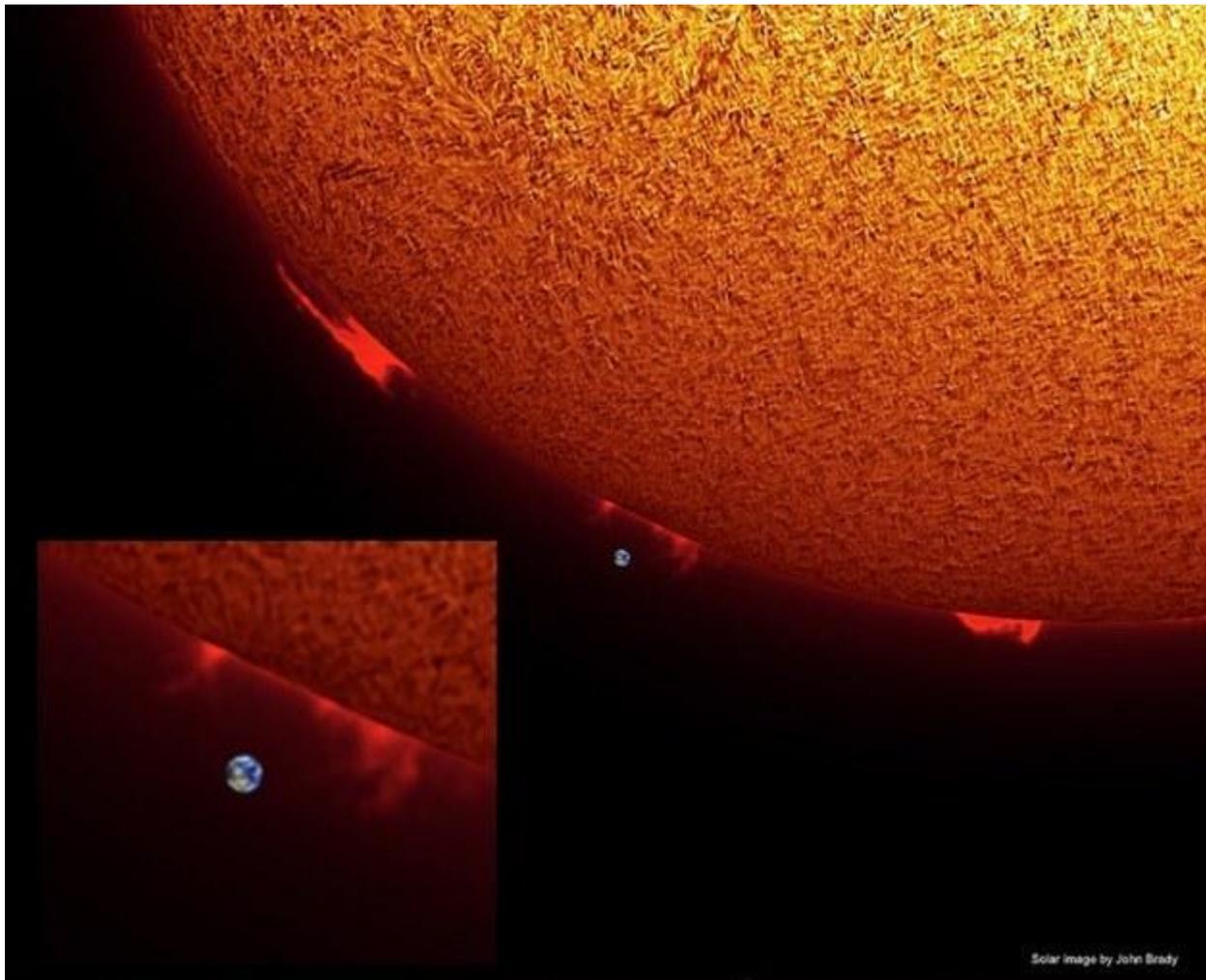


To paraphrase Carl Sagan, everyone and everything you have ever known exists on that little speck.

14. Let's put things in perspective.



15. Let's step back a bit. Here's the size of Earth compared with the size of our sun. Terrifying, right?



John Brady / Via astronomycentral.co.uk

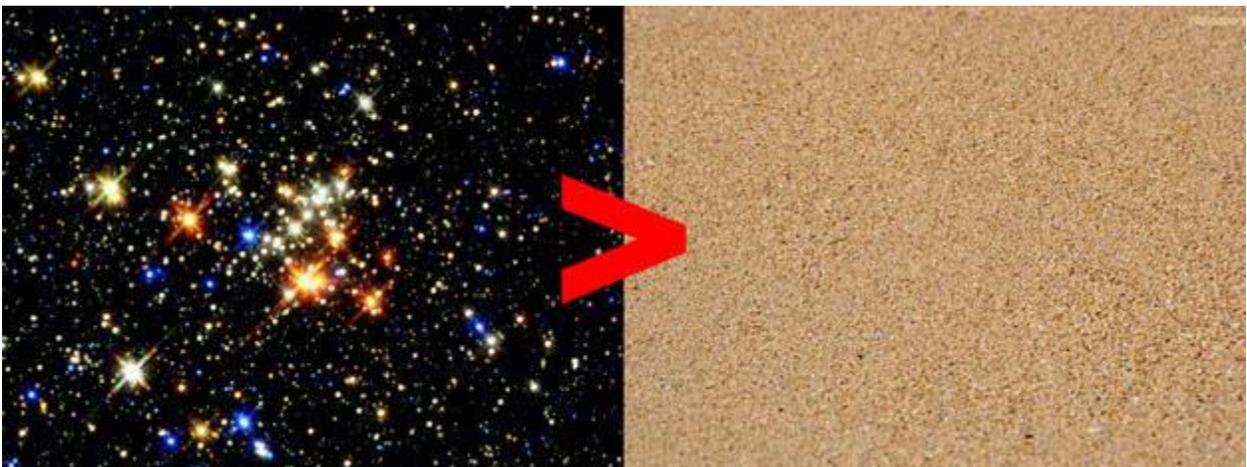
The sun doesn't even fit in the image.

16. And here's that same sun from the surface of Mars:



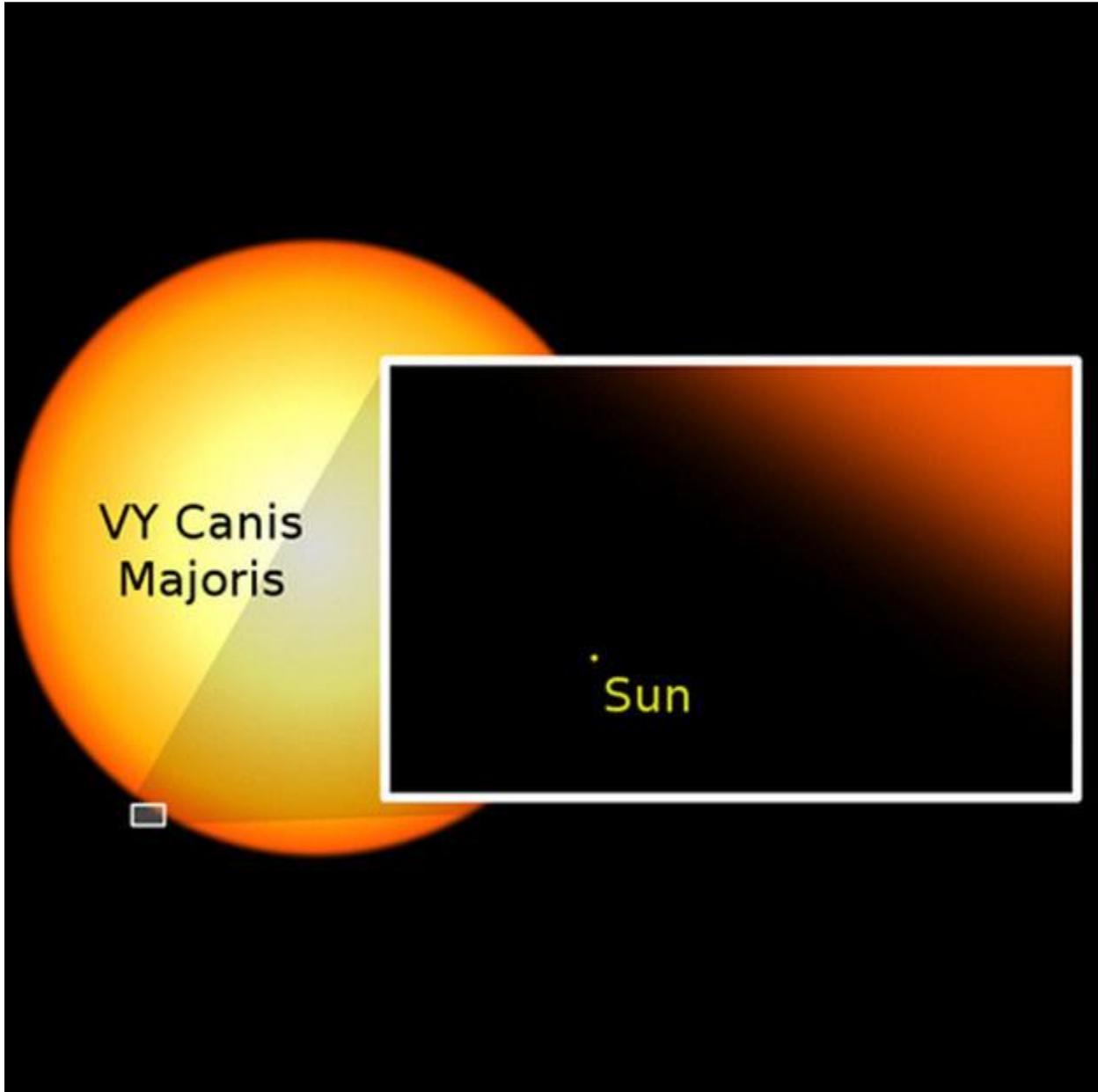
NASA

17. But that's nothing. Again, as Carl once mused, there are more stars in space than there are grains of sand on every beach on Earth:



Via science.nationalgeographic.com

18. Which means that there are ones much, much bigger than little wimpy sun. Just look at how tiny and insignificant our sun is:



Via en.wikipedia.org

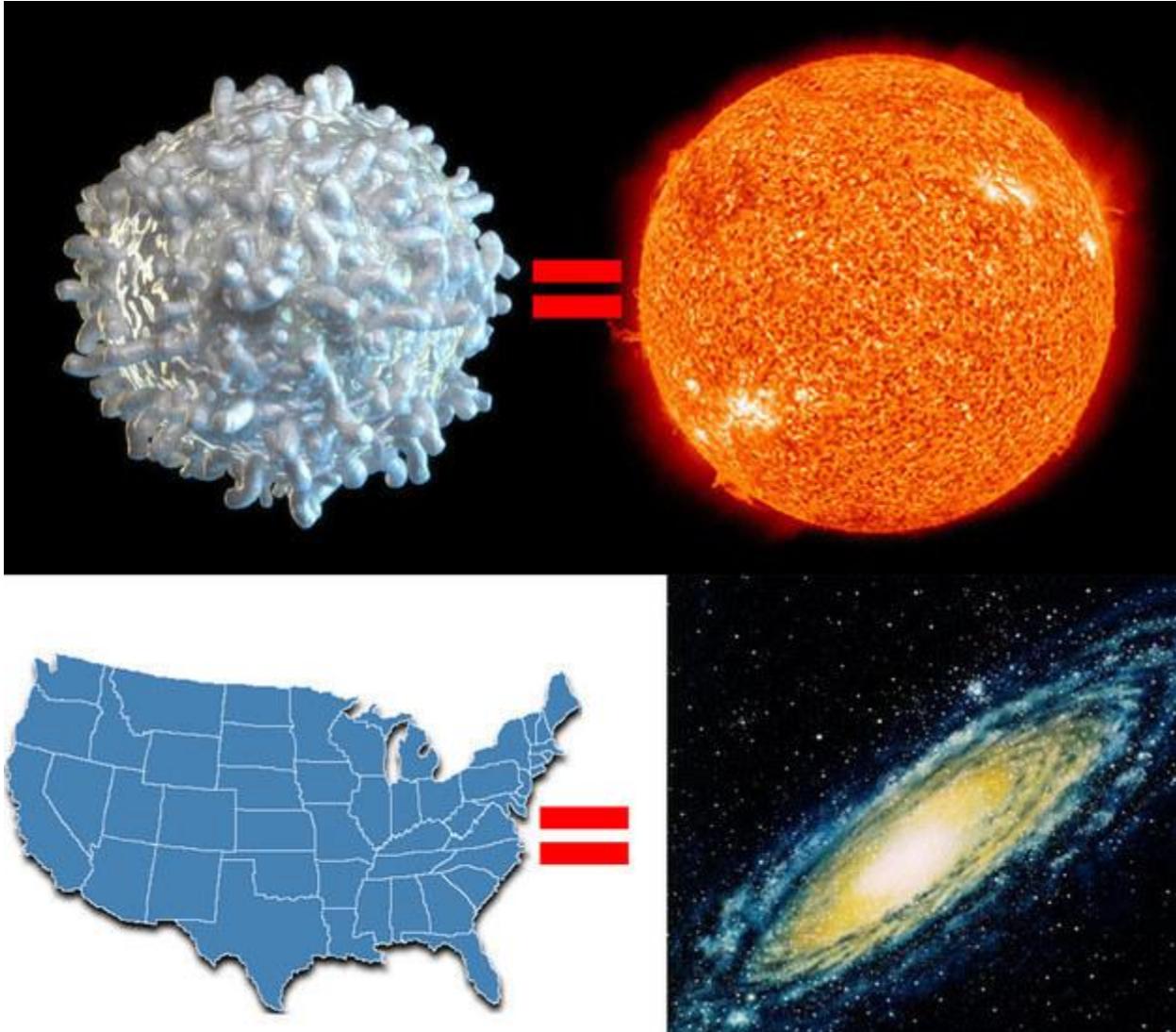
Our sun probably gets its lunch money stolen.

19. Here's another look. The biggest star, VY Canis Majoris, is 1,000,000,000 times bigger than our sun:



Via [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

20. But none of those compares to the size of a galaxy. In fact, if you shrank the sun down to the size of a white blood cell and shrunk the Milky Way galaxy down using the same scale, the Milky Way would be the size of the United States:



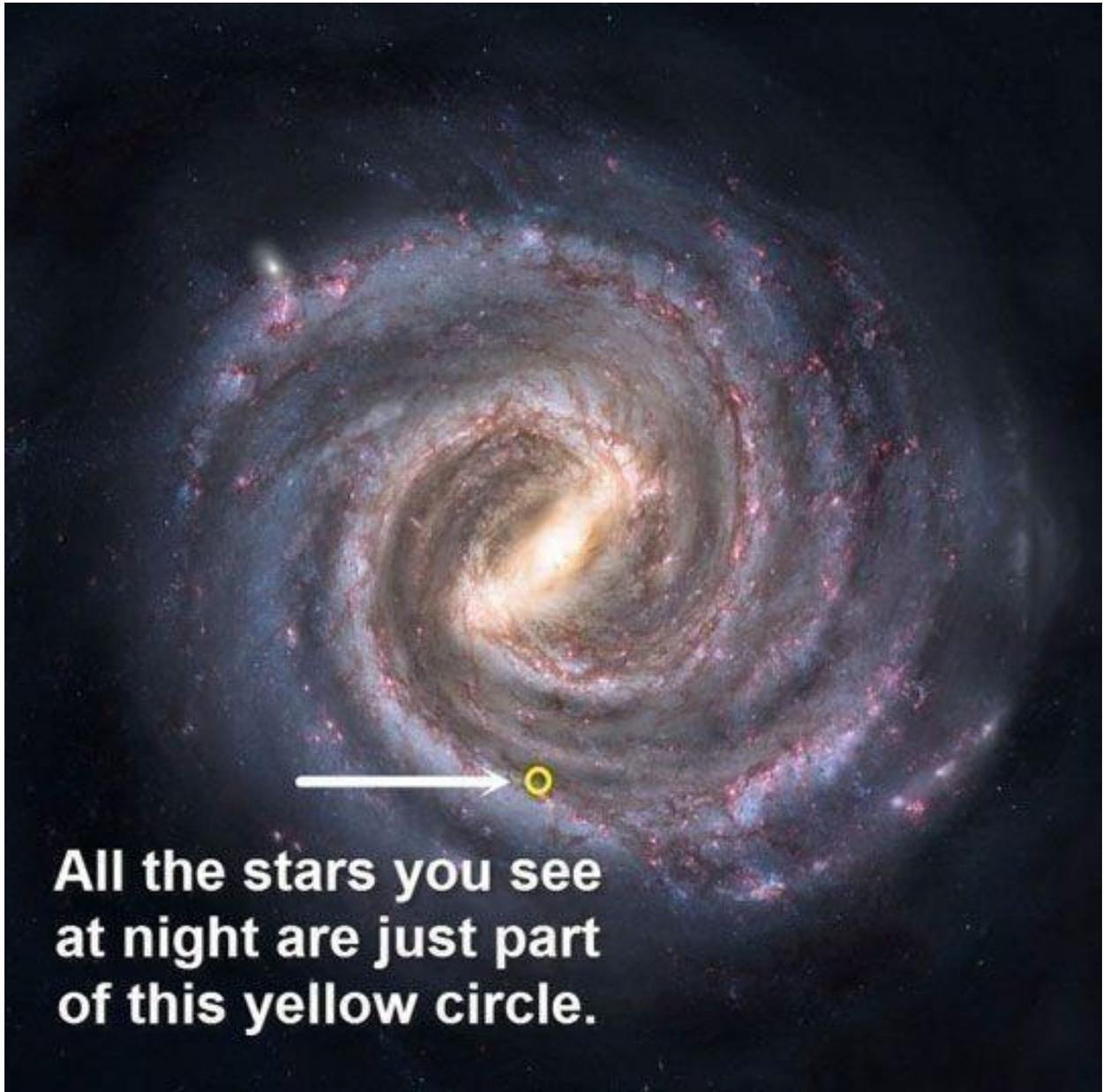
Via [reddit.com](https://www.reddit.com)

21. That's because the Milky Way galaxy is huge. This is where you live inside there:



Via teecraze.com

22. But this is all you ever see:

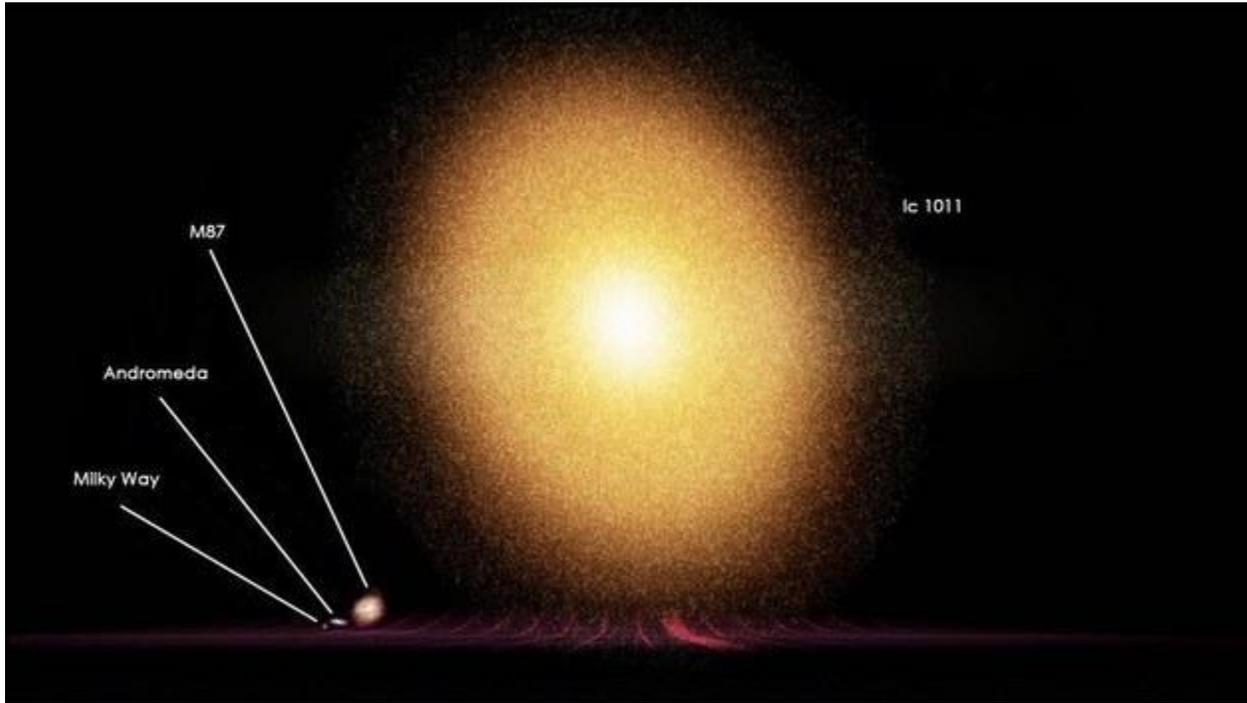


**All the stars you see
at night are just part
of this yellow circle.**

Via [Twitter: @lucybrockle](https://twitter.com/lucybrockle)

(That's not a picture of the Milky Way, but you get the idea.)

23. But even our galaxy is a little runt compared with some others. Here's the Milky Way compared to IC 1011, 350 million light years away from Earth:



Via [Twitter: @smokeinpublic](#)

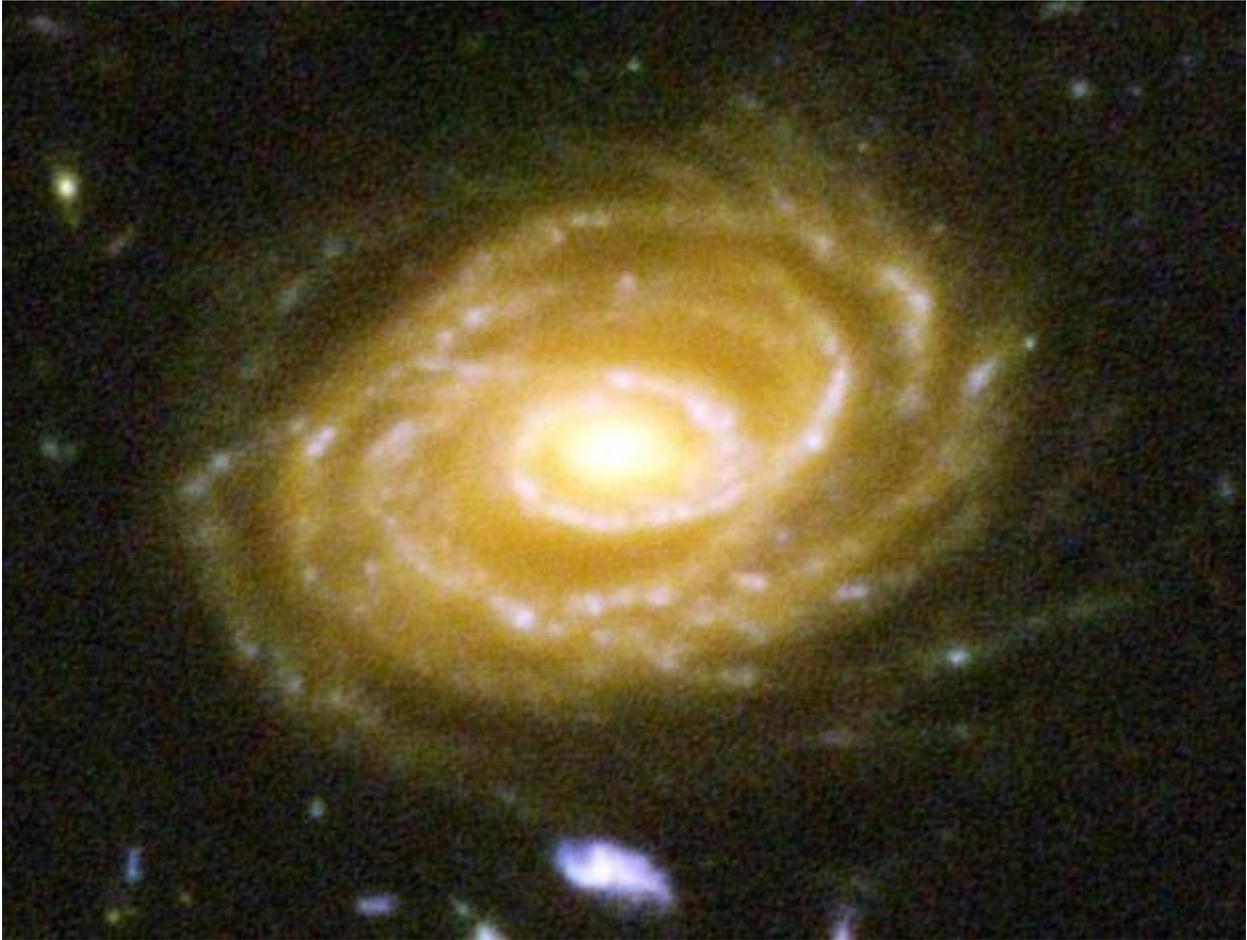
Just think about all that could be inside there.

24. But let's think bigger. In JUST this picture taken by the Hubble telescope, there are thousands and thousands of galaxies, each containing millions of stars, each with their own planets.



Via hubblesite.org

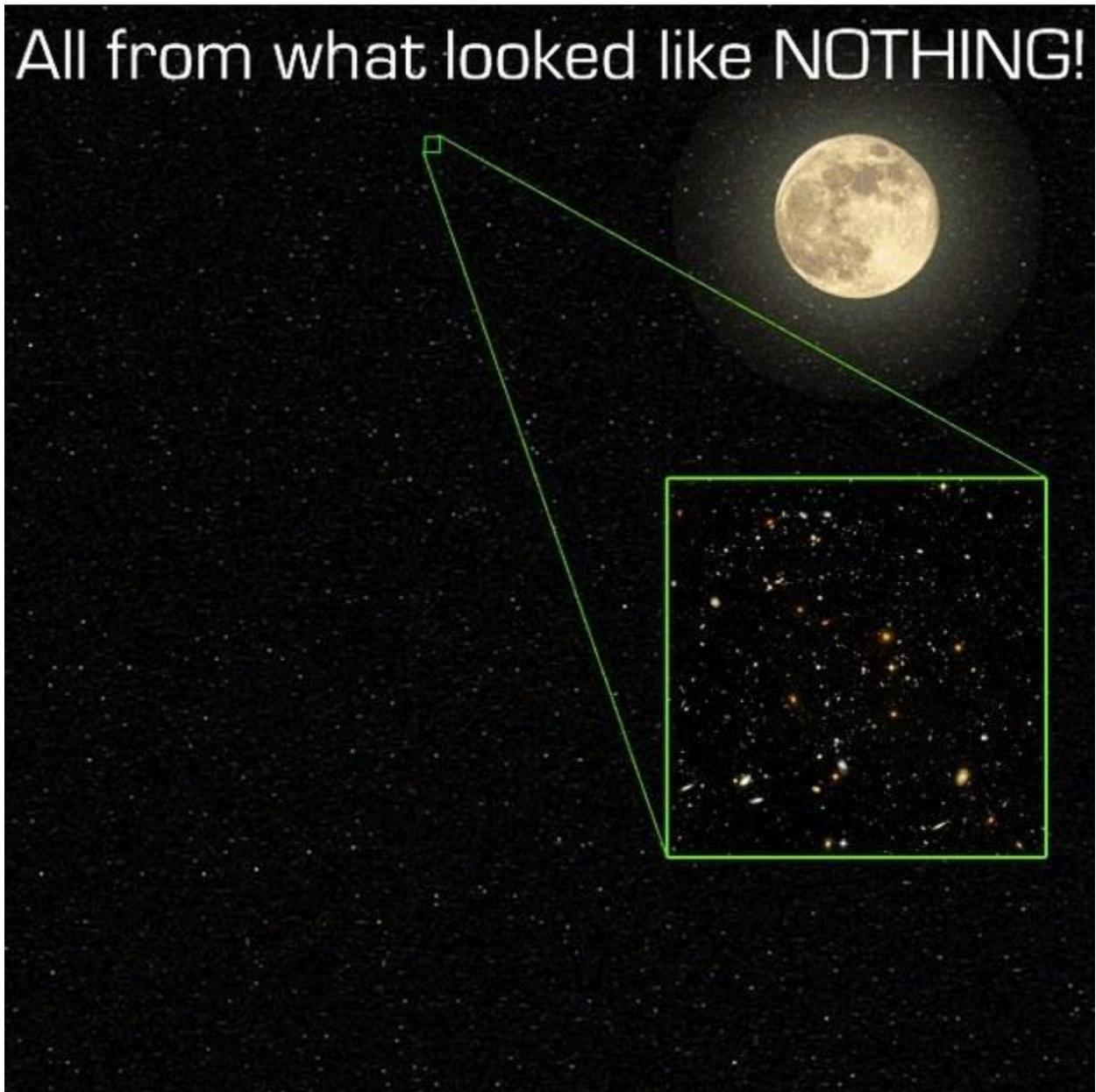
25. Here's one of the galaxies pictured, UDF 423. This galaxy is 10 BILLION light years away. When you look at this picture, you are looking billions of years into the past.



Via wikisky.org

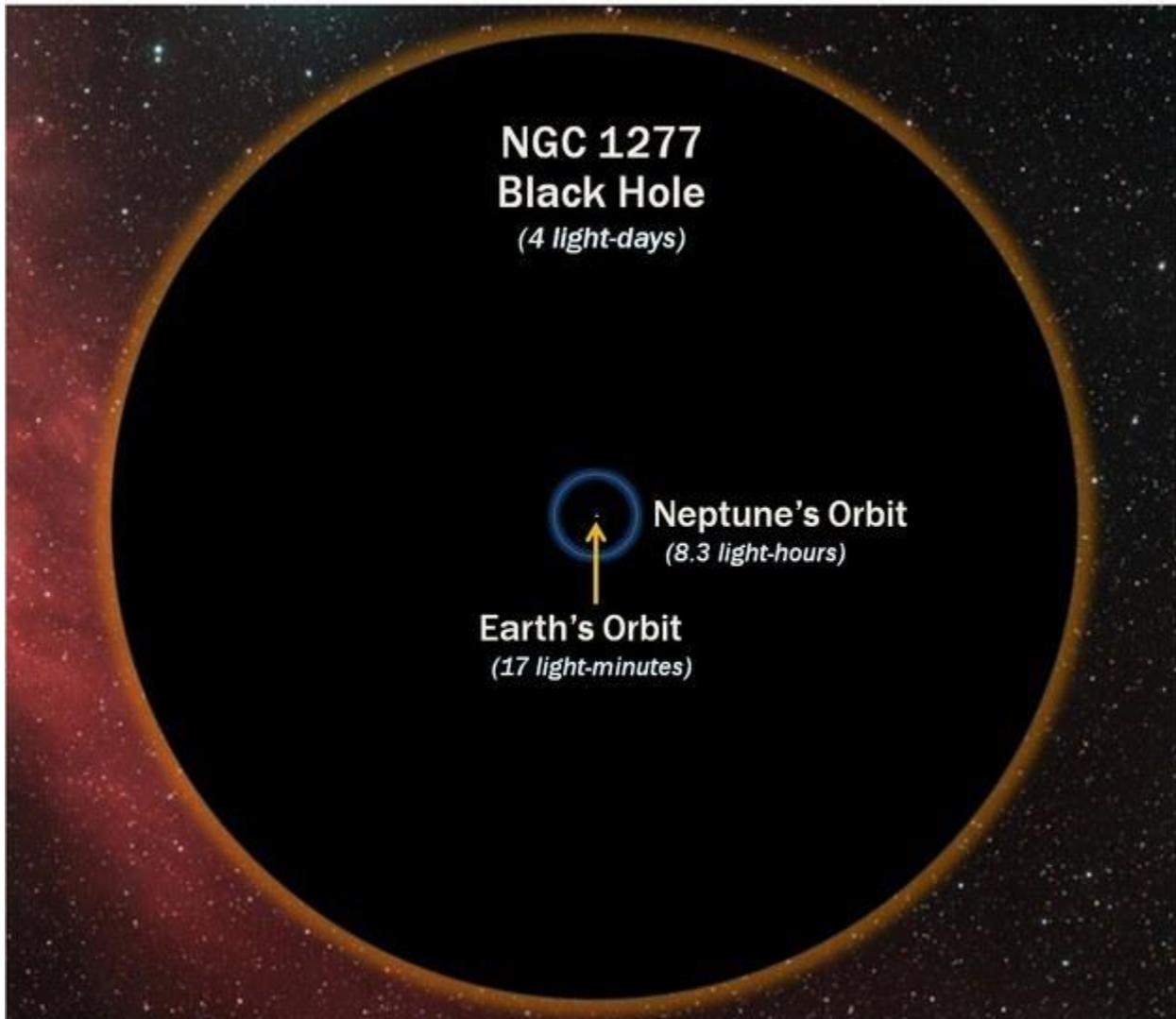
Some of the other galaxies are thought to have formed only a few hundred million years AFTER the Big Bang.

26. And just keep this in mind — that's a picture of a very small, small part of the universe. It's just an insignificant fraction of the night sky.



Via thetoc.gr

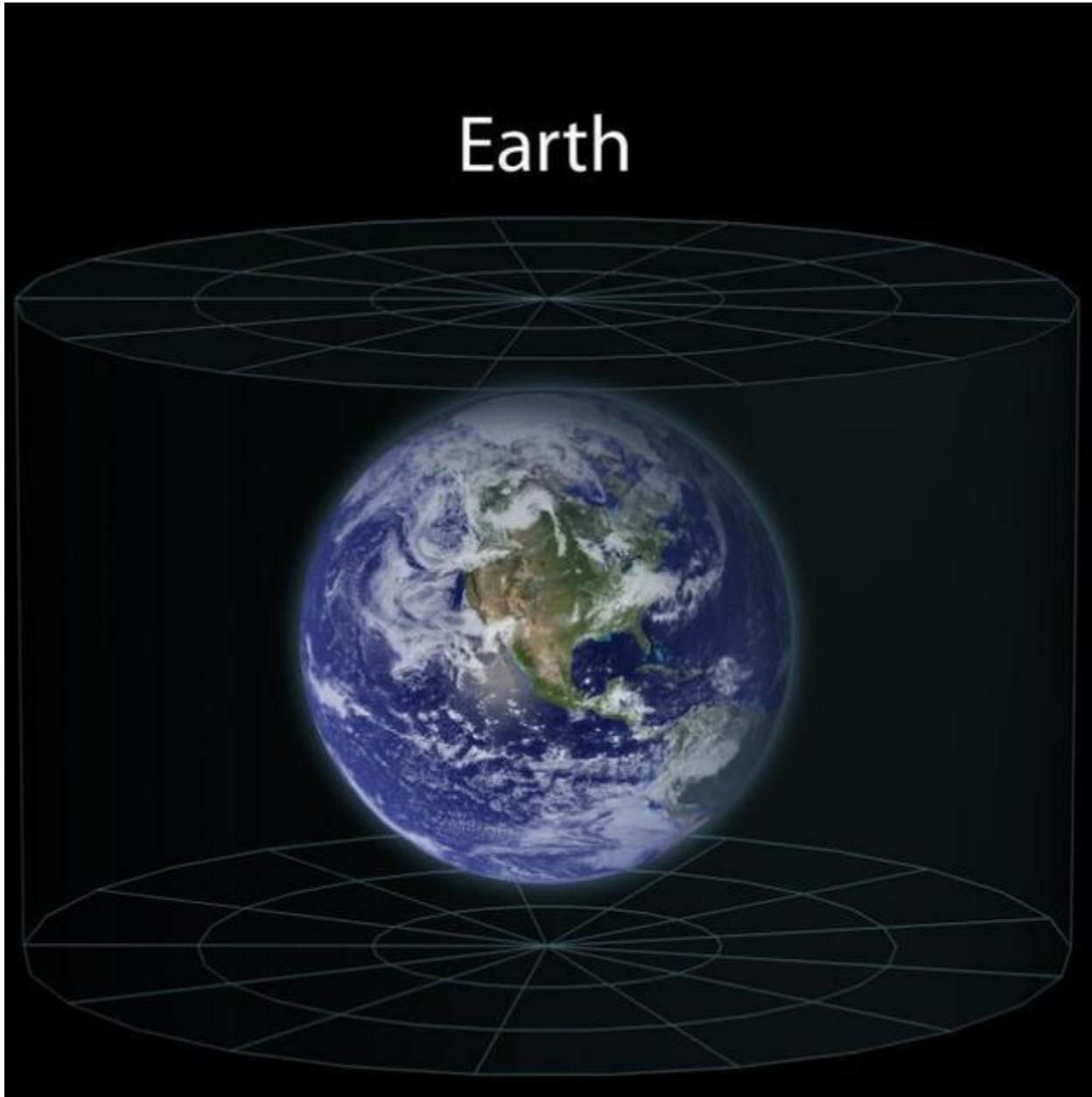
27. And, you know, it's pretty safe to assume that there are some black holes out there. Here's the size of a black hole compared with Earth's orbit, just to terrify you:



D. Benningfield/K. Gebhardt/StarDate / Via mcdonaldobservatory.org

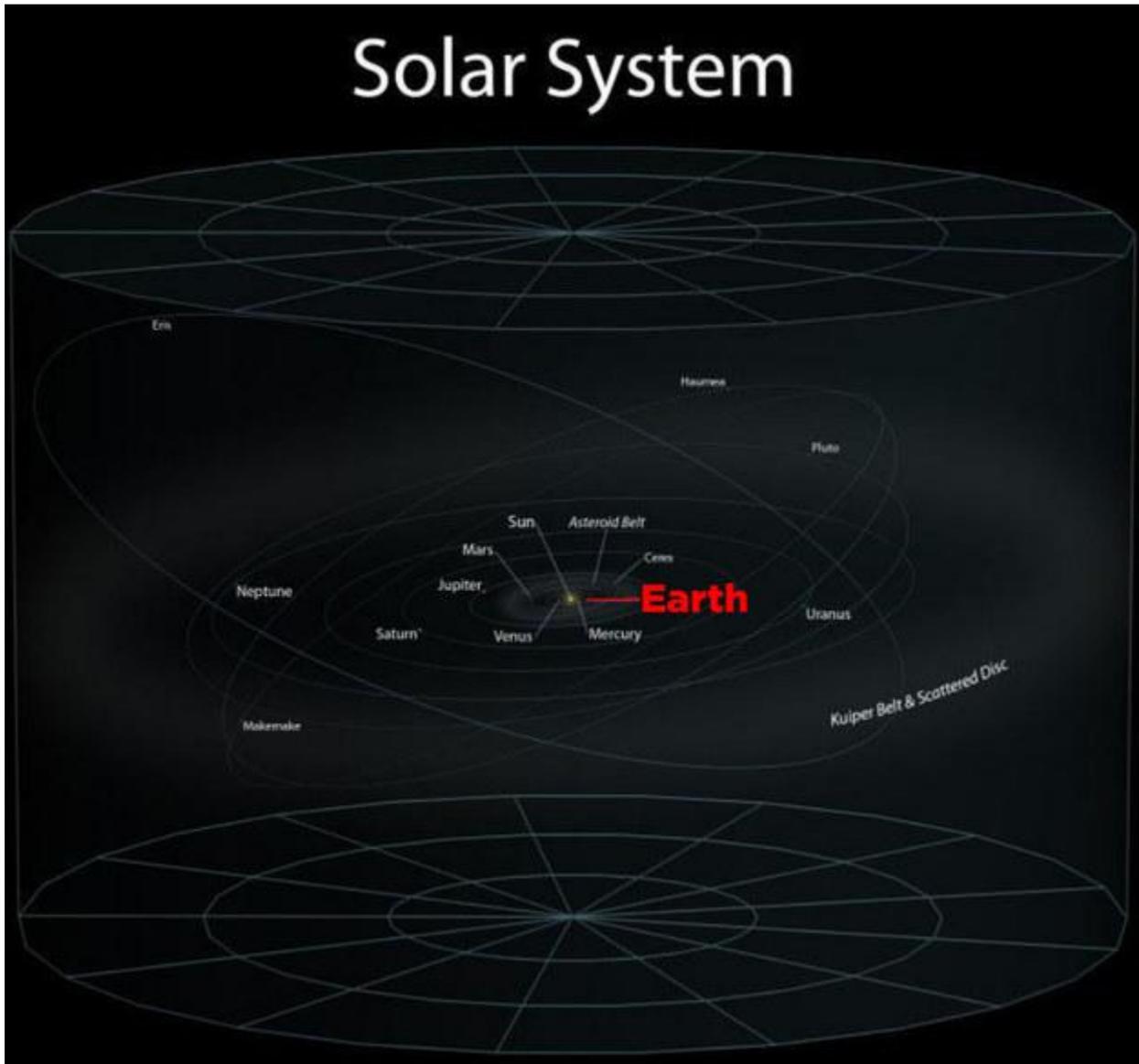
So if you're ever feeling upset about your favorite show being canceled or the fact that they play Christmas music way too early — just remember...

This is your home.

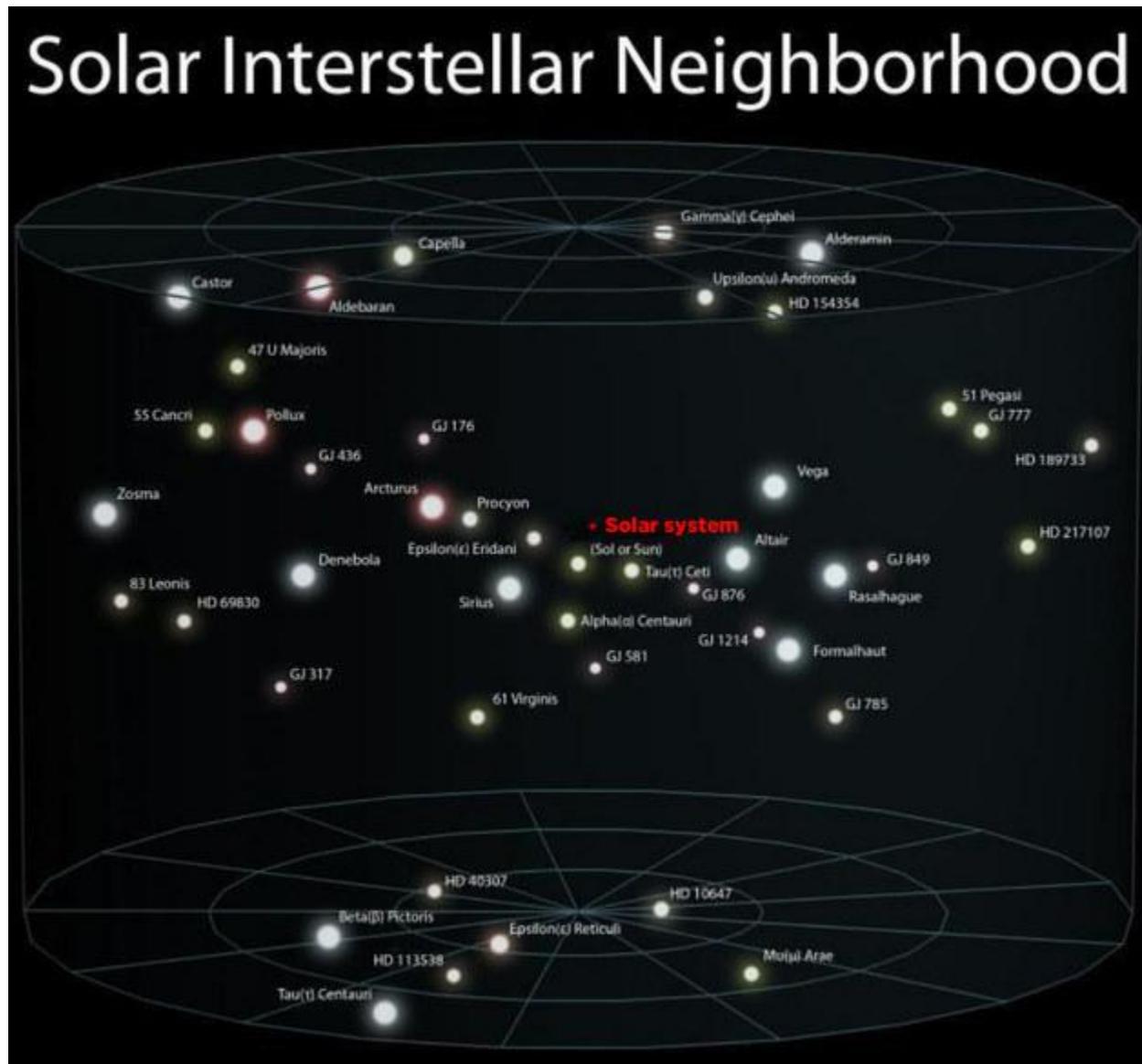


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This is what happens when you zoom out from your home to your solar system.



And this is what happens when you zoom out farther...



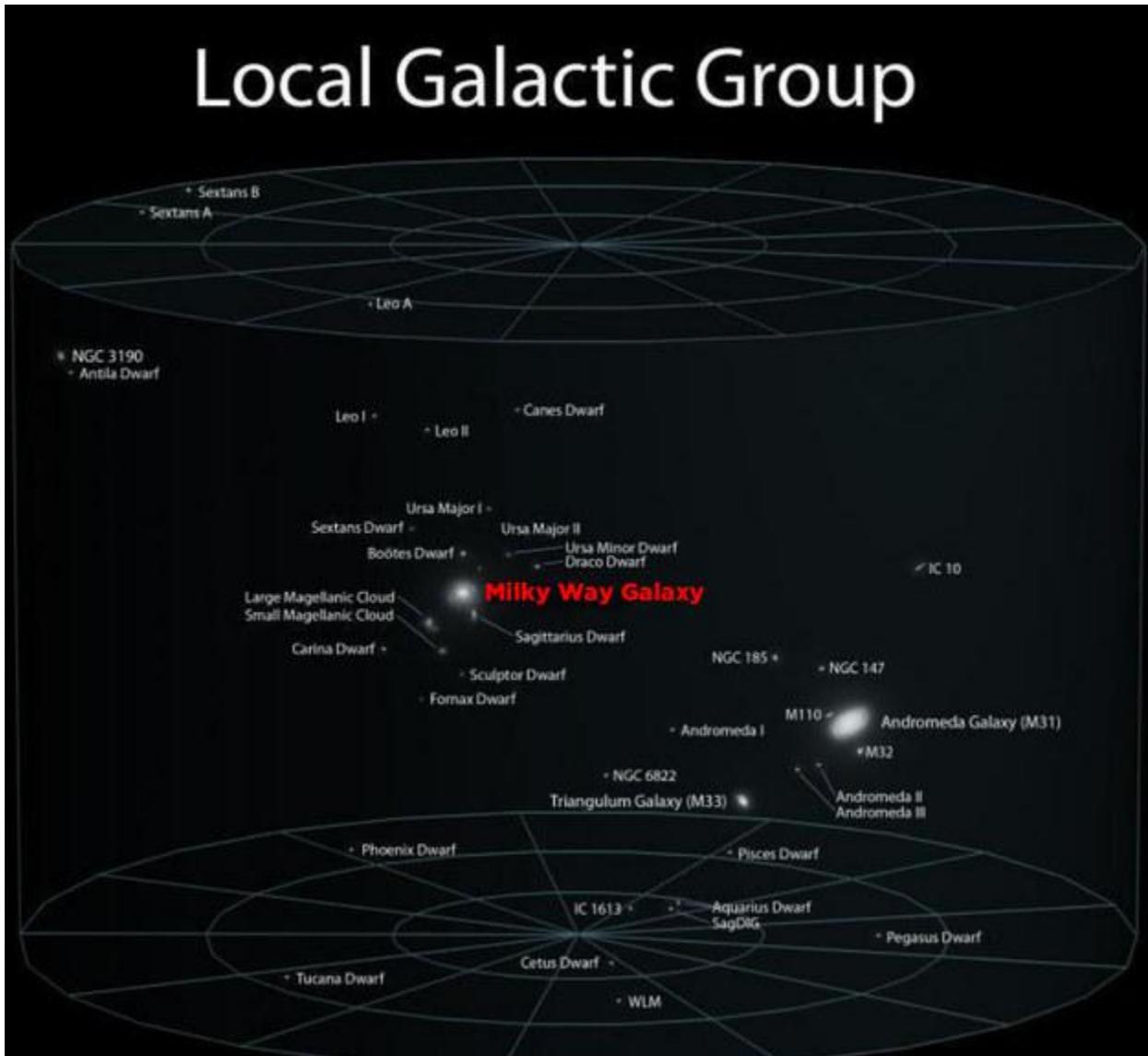
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And farther...



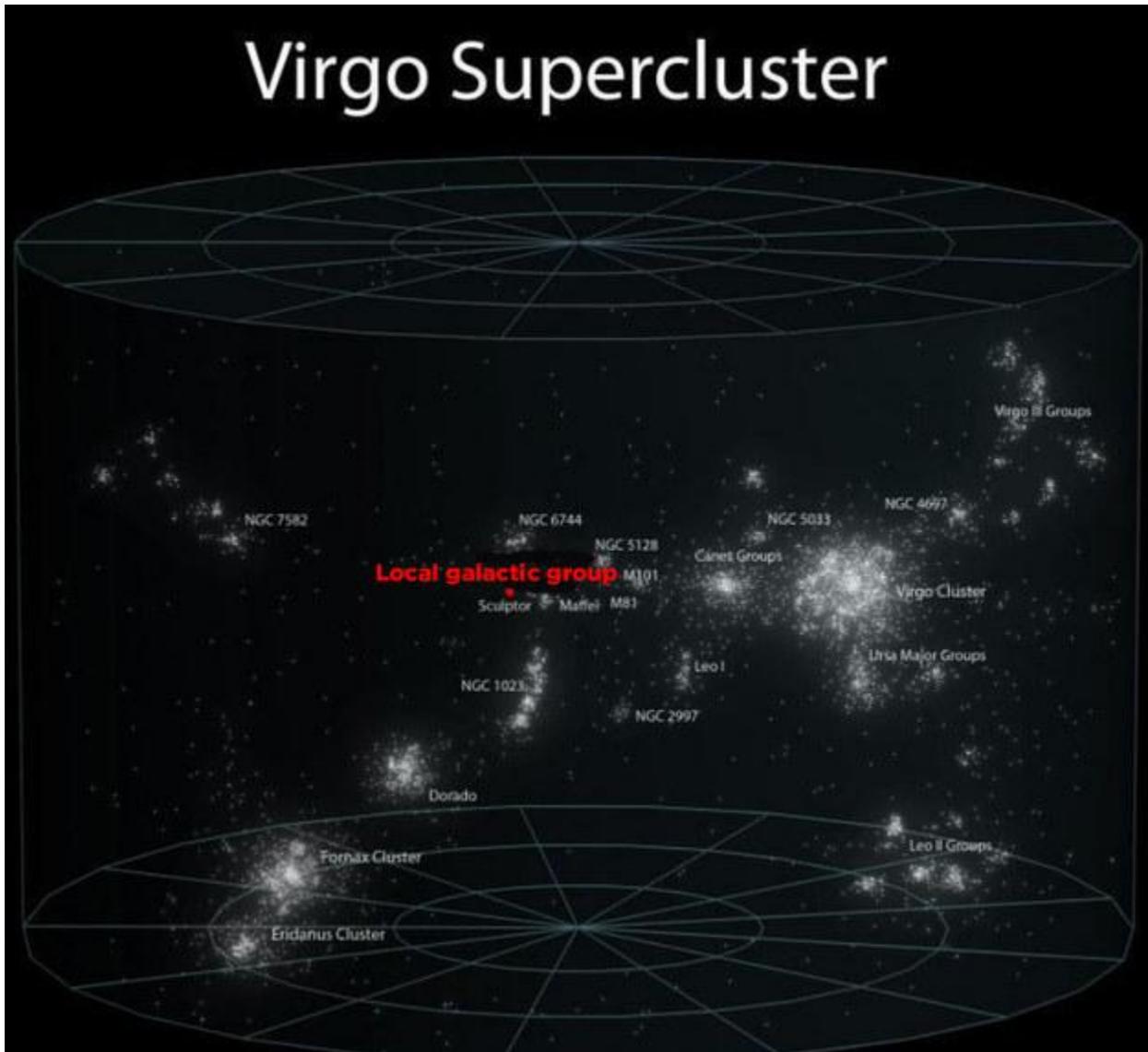
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Keep going...



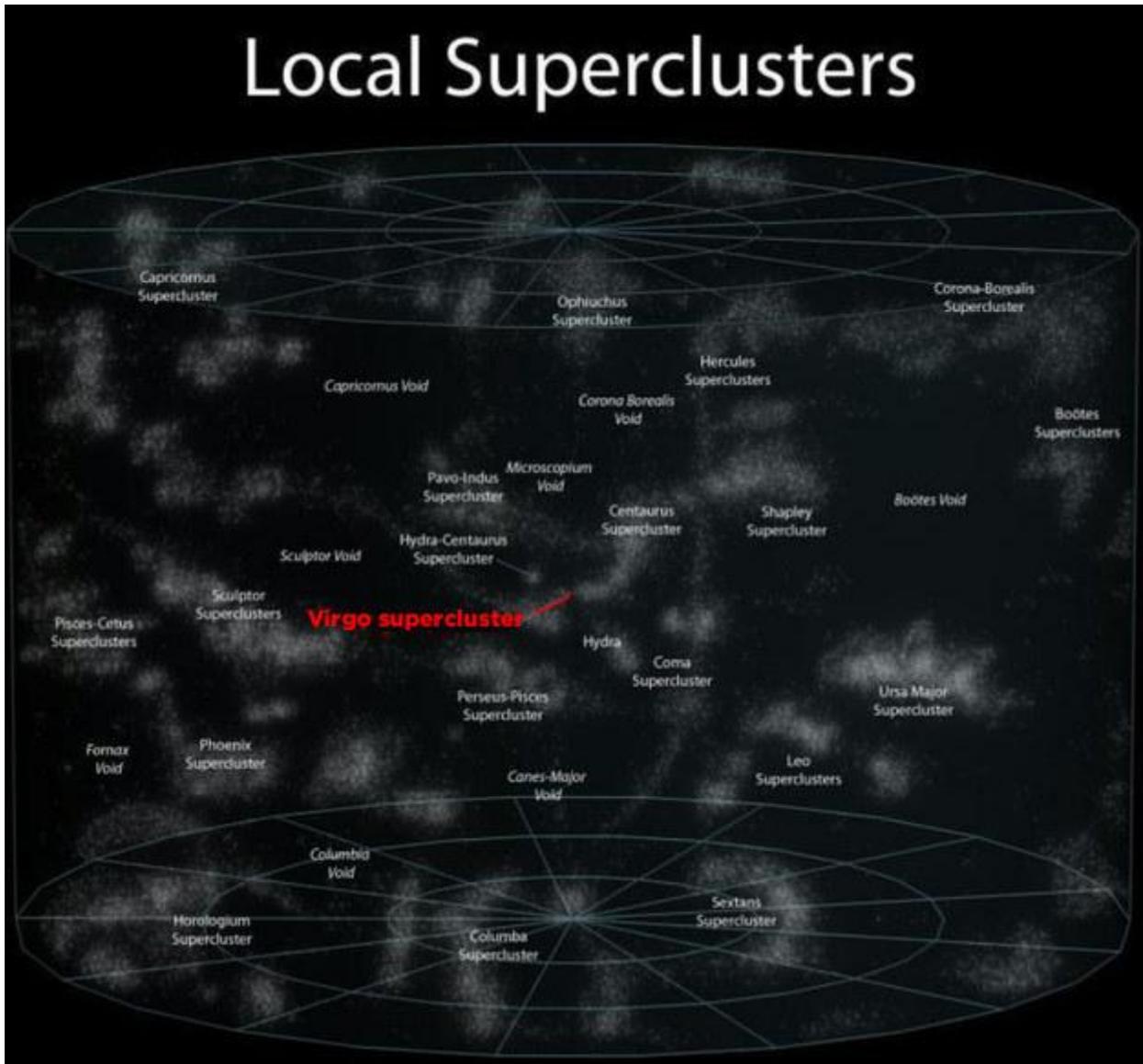
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Just a little bit farther...



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Almost there...



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Here it is. Here's everything in the observable universe, and here's your place in it. Just a tiny little ant in a giant jar.

