

STGZ327

08/21 - 08/27

A SUPER BLUE MOON!?! HOW?

HI MOONSHINES! NEXT WEEK IS A BLUE SUPERMOON; AN AMALGAMATION OF ASTRONOMICAL ANOMALIES! LET'S GO SEE IT...

HIT THE DARKNESS AUGUST 30TH LOOKING SOUTHEAST. THE FULL MOON WILL LOOK BRIGHTER, BUT WON'T BE BLUE IN COLOR. SORRY.

OUR MOON TAKES ABOUT 29.5 DAYS TO GO THROUGH A FULL CYCLE. SINCE OUR MONTHS HAPPEN TO BE 30 DAYS, EVERY 2.7 YEARS WE SEE TWO FULL MOONS IN ONE MONTH; THE SECOND IS CALLED A BLUE MOON. THE TERM COMES FROM A 16TH CENTURY EXPRESSION "THE MOON IS BLUE" KINDA LIKE "WHEN PIGS FLY" DESCRIBING A RARE EVENT.

THIS WEEK THE MOON IS AT A CLOSE POINT IN ITS ORBIT TOO! BECAUSE THE MOON'S ORBIT IS ELLIPTICAL IT'S SOMETIMES CLOSER TO EARTH. WHEN THIS CLOSENESS COINCIDES WITH A FULL MOON SOME CALL IT A SUPERMOON.

THE MOON REFLECTS SUNLIGHT. SO, A CLOSER MOON APPEARS AS MUCH AS FOURTEEN PERCENT LARGER, AND ABOUT THIRTY PERCENT BRIGHTER!

GO SEE SATURN SHINING NEAR THE MOON AND BATHE IN THE EXTRA MOONLIGHT WHILE YOU KEEP LOOKIN' UP.