

## His Forever

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**Sent:** Saturday, April 21, 2007 11:14 AM  
**Subject:** spaceweather.com 21 April

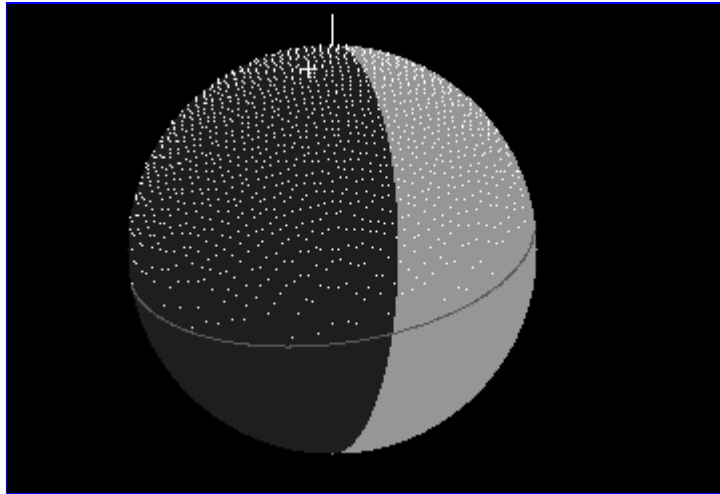
**GET READY FOR 3D:** On Monday, April 23rd, NASA will release, for the first time, 3-dimensional photos of the sun taken by the [STEREO](#) spacecraft. Magnetic loops, prominences and plumes will practically leap out of your computer screen.  
(continued below)



These images will be displayed on big screens at museums and science centers around the USA ([list](#)) and posted on the internet. Get ready this weekend by [buying](#) or [building](#) some 3D glasses--and stay tuned for Monday!

**WEEKEND METEORS:** Earth is entering the dusty tail of Comet Thatcher, and this will cause a mild meteor shower this weekend. It's called the [Lyrid meteor shower](#) because the bits of incandescent comet dust appear to come from the constellation Lyra. The best time to look is during the dark hours before dawn on Sunday, April 22nd, and Monday, April 23rd, when you can expect to see a shooting star overhead every 5 minutes or so: [sky map](#).

**Meanwhile on the Moon:** There's going to be a meteor shower on the Moon, too, but unlike Earth the Moon has no atmosphere to intercept Lyrids. Instead, meteoroids will hit the lunar surface and explode. This diagram shows how Lyrids will rain down over the north pole of the crescent Moon:



Credit: Bill Cooke, NASA Meteoroid Environment Office, MSFC

Using a [Meade 14-inch telescope](#), astronomers at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center have shown that [lunar meteors](#) are sometimes observable from Earth. They appear as brief [flashes of light](#) ranging in brightness from 3rd to 8th magnitude. If you're up for a challenge, train your telescope on the dark side of the crescent Moon this weekend; you might catch an exploding Lyrid.

[Lunar Meteors Home Page](#)