


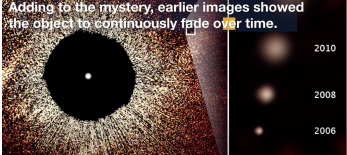





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Hubblecast 127 Light: The Mysteries of Fomalhaut b	Visual notes
<p>00:00-00:00 Intro</p>	
<p>Data from the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope has revealed an expanding cloud of dust that was likely produced in a <b>massive and rare collision</b>.</p>	<p>Data from the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope has revealed an expanding cloud of dust that was likely produced in a <b>massive and rare collision</b>.</p> 
<p>This is the <b>first time</b> such a catastrophic event has been observed around a star.</p>	<p>This is the <b>first time</b> such a catastrophic event has been observed around a star.</p> 
<p>Hubble images from 2014 showed that the planet Fomalhaut b had <b>vanished</b>, to the disbelief of the astronomers. Adding to the mystery, earlier images showed the object to continuously <b>fade over time</b>.</p>	<p>Adding to the mystery, earlier images showed the object to continuously <b>fade over time</b>.</p> 
<p>The resulting interpretation is that Fomalhaut b is not a planet, but a slowly expanding cloud blasted into space as a result of a <b>collision between two large bodies</b>.</p>	<p>The resulting interpretation is that Fomalhaut b is not a planet, but a slowly expanding cloud blasted into space as a result of a <b>collision between two large bodies</b>.</p> 

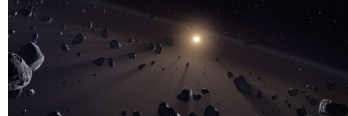
The collision is believed to have occurred between two large bodies orbiting the bright nearby star **Fomalhaut**, which lies 25 light-years from Earth

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Because Fomalhaut b is presently inside a vast ring of icy debris encircling the star, the colliding bodies were likely a mixture of **ice and dust**, like the cometary bodies that exist in the Kuiper belt on the outer fringe of our solar system.

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**Ends 01:36**