



1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:01,902
[rock music]

2
00:00:01,902 --> 00:00:05,038
The Guardians of the Galaxy may
have some skills at protecting

3
00:00:05,038 --> 00:00:08,742
the universe from bad guys, but
the Hubble Space Telescope also

4
00:00:08,742 --> 00:00:12,079
has some amazing superpowers
when it comes to observing

5
00:00:12,079 --> 00:00:16,116
galaxies. A galaxy is an
enormous collection of billions

6
00:00:16,116 --> 00:00:19,286
or trillions of stars and other
matter that is gravitationally

7
00:00:19,286 --> 00:00:22,422
held together. Most of the
individual stars you see with

8
00:00:22,422 --> 00:00:25,926
the naked eye are in our own
galaxy, the Milky Way, but if

9
00:00:25,926 --> 00:00:28,996
you use a telescope like Hubble
that can see fainter objects,

10
00:00:28,996 --> 00:00:33,300
you can spot other galaxies in
all sorts of configurations. For

11

00:00:33,300 --> 00:00:36,570

Hubble's 27th birthday this April, we released this new

12

00:00:36,570 --> 00:00:39,940

image of two spiral galaxies that are about 55 million

13

00:00:39,940 --> 00:00:43,243

light-years away. The galaxy on the right is viewed almost

14

00:00:43,243 --> 00:00:46,513

face-on at a slight angle, and the galaxy on the left is viewed

15

00:00:46,513 --> 00:00:50,484

edge on. They're very pretty, but it would be too easy to

16

00:00:50,484 --> 00:00:53,854

guard just two galaxies. Check out this brand new Frontier

17

00:00:53,854 --> 00:00:57,658

Fields image showing thousands of galaxies using two combined

18

00:00:57,658 --> 00:01:00,861

superpowers - Hubble's incredible optics above Earth's

19

00:01:00,861 --> 00:01:04,331

atmosphere, and a quirk of nature called gravitational

20

00:01:04,331 --> 00:01:08,602

lensing. The enormous mass of a cluster of galaxies is warping

21

00:01:08,602 --> 00:01:12,372

space in a way that acts as a lens that magnifies, brightens,

22

00:01:12,372 --> 00:01:16,343

and distorts the light from galaxies behind it. The galaxies

23

00:01:16,343 --> 00:01:20,047

in cluster Abell 370 are the bright yellowish white smudges,

24

00:01:20,047 --> 00:01:23,884

and they're about 4 billion light-years away. Most of the

25

00:01:23,884 --> 00:01:26,853

other smudges are background galaxies being gravitationally

26

00:01:26,853 --> 00:01:30,023

lensed by the galaxy cluster, and some of them you can see are

27

00:01:30,023 --> 00:01:33,593

incredibly distorted, like this dragon-shaped feature, which

28

00:01:33,593 --> 00:01:36,863

seems like a monster straight out of a comic book but is

29

00:01:36,863 --> 00:01:40,567

actually a single spiral galaxy appearing in multiple locations

30

00:01:40,567 --> 00:01:44,705

next to each other in an arc. One of the farthest galaxies in

31

00:01:44,705 --> 00:01:48,875

this image is this little red dot, which is over 13 billion

32

00:01:48,875 --> 00:01:52,346

light-years away, and it appears in multiple locations from the

33

00:01:52,346 --> 00:01:56,516

distortion of the gravitational lens. We're seeing this galaxy

34

00:01:56,516 --> 00:02:01,388

as it appeared only 600 million years after the Big Bang. The

35

00:02:01,388 --> 00:02:04,257

Hubble Space Telescope is helping keep watch over many,

36

00:02:04,257 --> 00:02:08,528

many galaxies, so if we spot any trouble going down in a far

37

00:02:08,528 --> 00:02:11,598

corner of the universe, we'll be sure to let Star-Lord and his

38

00:02:11,598 --> 00:02:12,332

team know.