



1  
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:04,000  
Music.

2  
00:00:04,000 --> 00:00:09,000  
Marc Rayman: This is Ceres, the dwarf planet that Dawn's been orbiting for more than a year now,

3  
00:00:09,000 --> 00:00:13,000  
providing us with fascinating views of an alien world.

4  
00:00:13,000 --> 00:00:17,000  
During its exploration, Dawn has moved closer and closer,

5  
00:00:17,000 --> 00:00:21,000  
allowing us to get a broad overview and then see exquisite detail.

6  
00:00:21,000 --> 00:00:23,000  
Music.

7  
00:00:23,000 --> 00:00:27,000  
Rayman: This is Ahuna Mons, the highest mountain on Ceres.

8  
00:00:27,000 --> 00:00:32,000  
Towering in an otherwise unremarkable area, it seems very odd that it rises so sharply.

9  
00:00:32,000 --> 00:00:35,000  
And geologists still don't know why.

10  
00:00:35,000 --> 00:00:42,000  
On its steepest side it soars 3 miles, higher than any peak in the continental United States.

11  
00:00:42,000 --> 00:00:45,000  
Music.

12  
00:00:45,000 --> 00:00:50,000  
Rayman: Haulani Crater, one of the brightest regions on Ceres.

13  
00:00:50,000 --> 00:00:52,000

It's about 21 miles across.

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00:00:52,000 --> 00:00:56,000

Its well-defined shape indicates it's relatively young,

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00:00:56,000 --> 00:01:00,000

the impact that formed it having occurred in recent geological times.

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00:01:00,000 --> 00:01:03,000

You can see a substantial amount of bright material,

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00:01:03,000 --> 00:01:07,000

which the latest analyses indicate may be a kind of salt.

18

00:01:07,000 --> 00:01:09,000

Music.

19

00:01:09,000 --> 00:01:11,000

Rayman: This is Oxo Crater,

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00:01:11,000 --> 00:01:16,000

which shows more of this intriguing bright material inside and out,

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00:01:16,000 --> 00:01:18,000

as well as a peculiar shape.

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00:01:18,000 --> 00:01:23,000

At 6 miles in diameter, this is the second-brightest feature on Ceres.

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00:01:23,000 --> 00:01:28,000

You can see next to it an intriguing linear feature called a 'slump,'

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00:01:28,000 --> 00:01:31,000

where a mass of material has dropped below the surface.

25

00:01:31,000 --> 00:01:34,000

Music.

26

00:01:34,000 --> 00:01:38,000

Rayman: This is Urvara Crater, about 105 miles in diameter,

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00:01:38,000 --> 00:01:41,000

although not the largest on Ceres.

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00:01:41,000 --> 00:01:43,000

Although many craters have a mountain in the center,

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00:01:43,000 --> 00:01:47,000

Urvara has a prominent double peak

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00:01:47,000 --> 00:01:51,000

surrounded by rough terrain and linear parallel grooves.

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00:01:51,000 --> 00:01:54,000

Music.

32

00:01:54,000 --> 00:01:59,000

Rayman: Occator Crater: 57 miles across and 2 miles deep.

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00:01:59,000 --> 00:02:03,000

As Dawn closed in what initially looked like one spot became two

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00:02:03,000 --> 00:02:06,000

and, eventually, a multitude of features.

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00:02:06,000 --> 00:02:10,000

This reflective material makes it the brightest region on Ceres.

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00:02:10,000 --> 00:02:13,000

The crater also appears to be among the youngest on Ceres.

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00:02:13,000 --> 00:02:17,000

Dawn mission scientists estimate its age to be about 80 million years,

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00:02:17,000 --> 00:02:20,000

which is quite young in geological time.

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00:02:20,000 --> 00:02:24,000

Dawn is now orbiting only 240 miles above Ceres,

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00:02:24,000 --> 00:02:27,000

which is closer than the Space Station is to Earth.