



1
00:00:28,970 --> 00:00:32,080

Every time we look out this
window or we look out the windows

2
00:00:32,080 --> 00:00:34,080

in the cupola, we're absolutely amazed.

3
00:00:34,080 --> 00:00:37,610

And the same thing goes for being
aboard the space shuttle.

4
00:00:37,610 --> 00:00:42,650

And I would say that two nights ago I probably
saw the most amazing thing I've ever seen

5
00:00:42,650 --> 00:00:46,670

in space, and that's saying an awful lot
because every day is filled with amazing things.

6
00:00:46,670 --> 00:00:50,820

And that was as we were flying over
Tasmania, we'd actually just seen the storms

7
00:00:50,820 --> 00:00:52,800

in the South Pacific over the Philippines.

8
00:00:52,800 --> 00:00:56,900

And it was nighttime, thunderstorms
lighting up the entire sky,

9
00:00:56,900 --> 00:00:59,950

and then just before the sun came
up, the Earth's limb was, you know,

10
00:00:59,950 --> 00:01:03,510

lit up as a sliver of blue and purple.

11
00:01:03,510 --> 00:01:08,800

And then there was a long green arc that

extended probably 10° or so from the horizon.

12
00:01:08,800 --> 00:01:13,740
Actually from the perspective of the cupola,
which, in which case we're upside down, up,

13
00:01:13,740 --> 00:01:15,430
you know, in my field of view upwards.

14
00:01:15,430 --> 00:01:17,500
In fact it disappeared behind the JEM.

15
00:01:17,500 --> 00:01:22,900
At least 10° I think, 20 Earth or 20
moon diameters, if you think about it

16
00:01:22,900 --> 00:01:25,100
in those terms, and I had no idea what it was.

17
00:01:25,100 --> 00:01:27,190
It was a long, green glowing arc.

18
00:01:27,190 --> 00:01:30,840
And it turns out, it ended up
being a comet that somebody

19
00:01:30,840 --> 00:01:32,730
in Tasmania had seen about the same time.

20
00:01:32,730 --> 00:01:38,440
Comet Lovejoy, that had passed about
140,000 km from the surface of the sun.

21
00:01:38,440 --> 00:01:42,190
When it disappeared behind the sun, I think
astronomers thought it would not appear again.

22
00:01:42,190 --> 00:01:43,530
It probably would burn up.

23

00:01:43,530 --> 00:01:46,220

But it's probably the most
spectacular thing you can imagine.

24

00:01:46,220 --> 00:01:50,210

And from the vantage point of space, it's
different than seeing it from planet Earth

25

00:01:50,210 --> 00:01:52,800

because there's no intervening
atmosphere to see.

26

00:01:52,800 --> 00:01:55,380

So we took some really neat pictures last night,

27

00:01:55,380 --> 00:01:58,330

about 100 or so that we hope
to make a movie out of.