

STGZ236

10/31 - 11/06

GOD OF WAR AND A STARRY SWORD

TRACE HERE STAR SPIERS. LET'S KEEP THE SPOOKY FEELINGS GOING BY FINDING THE GOD OF WAR, A RED GIANT, AND A NEBULOUS SWORD – ALL IN A ROW HIT THE DARKNESS AROUND TWELVE THIRTY AND LOOK EAST. ORION'S THREE BELT STARS ARE EASY TO SPOT – AS IS HIS HANDSOME HOURGLASS FIGURE – IF YOU LOOK DIRECTLY ABOVE HIS CLUB, THE BRIGHT ORANGE DOT IS MARS, NAMED FOR THE ROMAN GOD OF WAR.

MOVING BACK TO ORION: THE TOP LEFT STAR IN HIS CONSTELLATION IS BETELGEUSE A RED GIANT TEN TIMES MORE MASSIVE THAN OUR SUN – JUST DON'T SAY ITS NAME THREE TIMES!

CONTINUING TOWARD THE HORIZON, LOOK JUST BELOW AND TO THE RIGHT OF ORION'S BELT – THAT'S ORION'S SWORD. THERE YOU WILL FIND THE ORION NEBULA, ONE OF THE BRIGHTEST IN THE NIGHT SKY, LIKELY BRIGHTER NOW THAN AT ANY TIME IN HISTORY – AS IT WASN'T MENTIONED BY ANCIENT ASTRONOMER! SPOOOOKY!

BONUS: JUPITER AND SATURN ARE OUT TONIGHT IN THE SOUTHWEST! HAPPY HAUNTING, AND KEEP LOOKIN' UP.