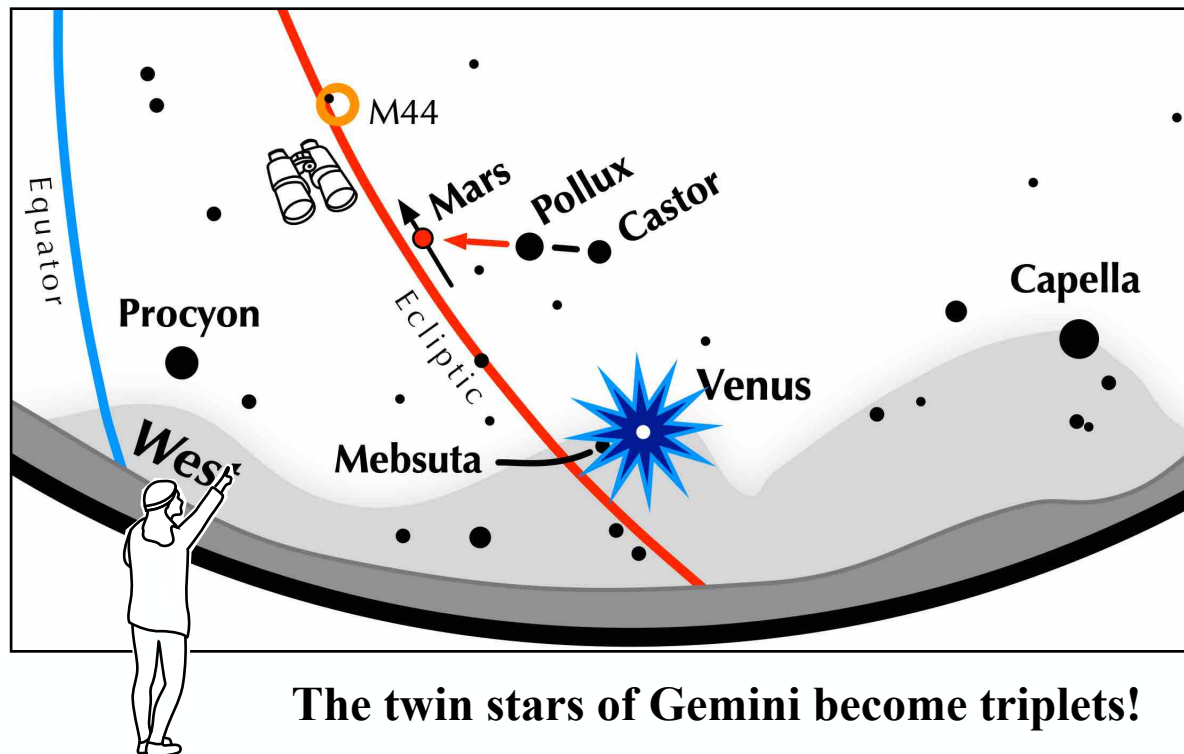




If you can see only one celestial event in the evening this May, see this one.



The twin stars of Gemini become triplets!

Beginning in the second week of May, look to the west-northwest 90 minutes after sunset.

- The twin stars of Gemini, Castor and Pollux, will be found forming a horizontal bar.
- Red Mars, sporting a brightness mid way between those two stars, rises nightly, eventually sliding directly to their left.
- On **May 16**, the three luminaries form a straight line, effectively creating another member of Gemini, the Triplets!
- Look at Venus, brilliantly shining below them. Can you see the moderately bright star Mebsuta in the glare of Venus? Binoculars will certainly help.
- The bright stars Procyon and Capella act like opposing bookends for the scene.
- Over next two weeks, watch Mars approach M44, the Beehive cluster, and Venus move near Castor and Pollux.

