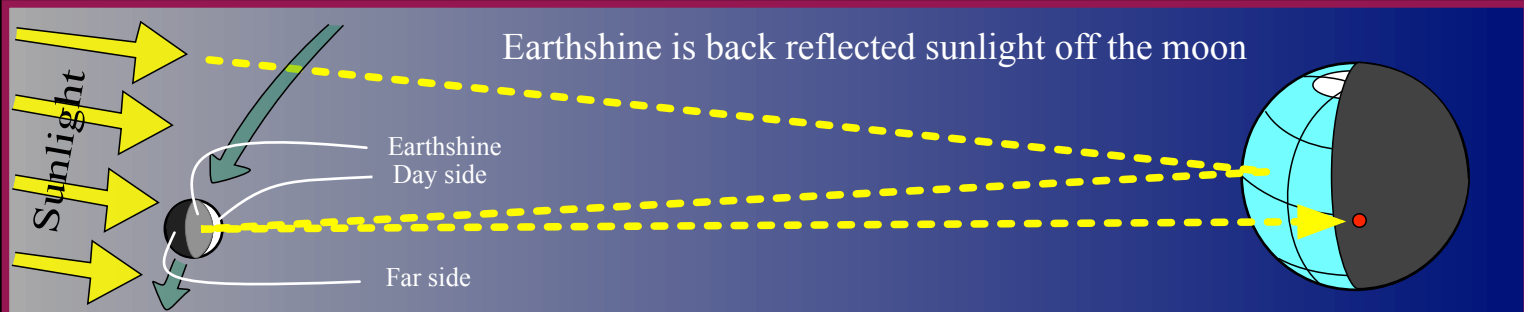


Evening Earthshine

aka "The old moon in the new moon's arms"



In a very strange sense, Earthshine is the reflection of Earth on the moon.



Older than 4 day-old moon:

Distinguishing Earthshine with the unaided becomes harder with each passing evening. However, the moon's night side can still be seen through a telescope for a few more nights.

4 day-old moon:

- Sets up to 5 hours after sunset.
- The glare from its brightly lit day side begins to make seeing Earthshine slightly more difficult.

3 day-old moon:

- Sets up to 3.5 hours after sunset.
- Earthshine is very prominent.

2 day-old moon:

- Sets up to 2 hours after sunset.
- The bright twilight mutes the diaphanous glow of the Earthshine.

1 day-old moon:

- Typically sets 60 minutes or less after sunset.
- Earthshine appears very subdued because of the moon's placement in the bright twilight, and the thinness and relative dimness of the crescent.
- Binoculars help pick up the very thin lunar crescent in the twilight just above the horizon.

New Moon, 0 day-old moon:

- Sets with the sun.

A very bright Earth

- When the moon shows a thin crescent phase in Earth's sky, the Earth shows a thick gibbous phase in the lunar sky.
- A thick gibbous Earth covers 16 times the sky than the full moon from Earth does – and it reflects 4 times more light. This means that the near full Earth in the lunar sky is nearly 64 times brighter than the full moon is in our sky.

- For an observer on the unlit near side of the moon, the lunar landscape is illuminated by bright Earthlight.

