

*Has the universe always existed?  
How did Earth come to harbor life?  
Are we alone?*

**NOVA PRESENTS *ORIGINS*  
with Neil deGrasse Tyson  
September 28 & 29, 2004, 8 to 10 PM ET/PT on PBS**

**WATCH THE NOVA SERIES:**

Who would have predicted that a hot spot left over from the Big Bang would eventually lead to the Earth, the cosmos—and to us? NOVA covers all the exciting steps in between on *ORIGINS*, a four-part miniseries on the beginnings of Earth, life, and the universe, airing Tuesday and Wednesday, September 28 & 29, 2004, from 8 to 10 PM ET/PT on PBS (check local listings).

NOVA's *ORIGINS* follows series host and popular astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson as he guides viewers on a cosmic journey from the beginning of time to the far reaches of the universe—in search of the recipes for life.

- *EARTH IS BORN*, shows that ancient cataclysms made our planet what it is today. Ironically, says Tyson, "Earth became a hospitable planet only after a series of devastating disasters in its early years."
- *HOW LIFE BEGAN*, highlights the most radical transformation ever in the history of our planet and perhaps the cosmos: the moment when inert, lifeless matter managed to organize itself into life.
- *WHERE ARE THE ALIENS?*, explores the latest in the search for extraterrestrial life and asks, given that our universe is broadly compatible to life, Where is everybody?
- *BACK TO THE BEGINNING*, turns back the clock to the beginning of time itself to understand how a universe conducive to life materialized from the Big Bang.

**MEET YOUR HOST:**



Neil deGrasse Tyson, Frederick P. Rose  
Director of the Hayden Planetarium at  
the American Museum of Natural History  
in New York City.

Neil deGrasse Tyson's first love is conveying a sense of wonder about the universe to the uninitiated, which is why he became an astrophysicist after earning a B.A. at Harvard and a Ph.D. from Columbia University. Tyson's research interests include star formation, exploding stars, dwarf galaxies, and the structure of our Milky Way.

***ORIGINS* ONLINE:**

[www.pbs.org/nova/origins](http://www.pbs.org/nova/origins)

- Explore the history of the universe
- View a gallery of Aliens
- Read an interview with Neil deGrasse Tyson
- NOVA's Teacher's Guide, links, books and more

**READ IN COSMIC DETAIL:**

The book *ORIGINS: Fourteen Billion Years of Cosmic Evolution*, by Neil deGrasse Tyson and Donald Goldsmith is a wide-ranging, witty, and exhilarating tour through time—from the Big Bang to the dawn of man. The book is available on September 28, 2004 from W. W. Norton & Company.

**NOVA**

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