

TEN BILLION

YEARS AGO IN A

GALAXY FAR, FAR AWAY

A SUPERMASSIVE STAR

IMPLODED, VIOLENTLY EXPLODED

AND A BLACK HOLE APPEARED...





UNIVERSE!

Gamma-ray bursts (GRBs), shining as bright as a billion trillion suns, are quick bursts of gamma-ray photons that are detected almost daily in random directions of the sky. Alerted by the High Energy Transient Explorer (HETE), scientists arriving on the scene of a gamma-ray burst just moments after the explosion have witnessed the death of a gigantic star and the birth of quite possibly a brand new, spinning black hole. HETE has detected GRBs located between 2 and 10 billion light years away.

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