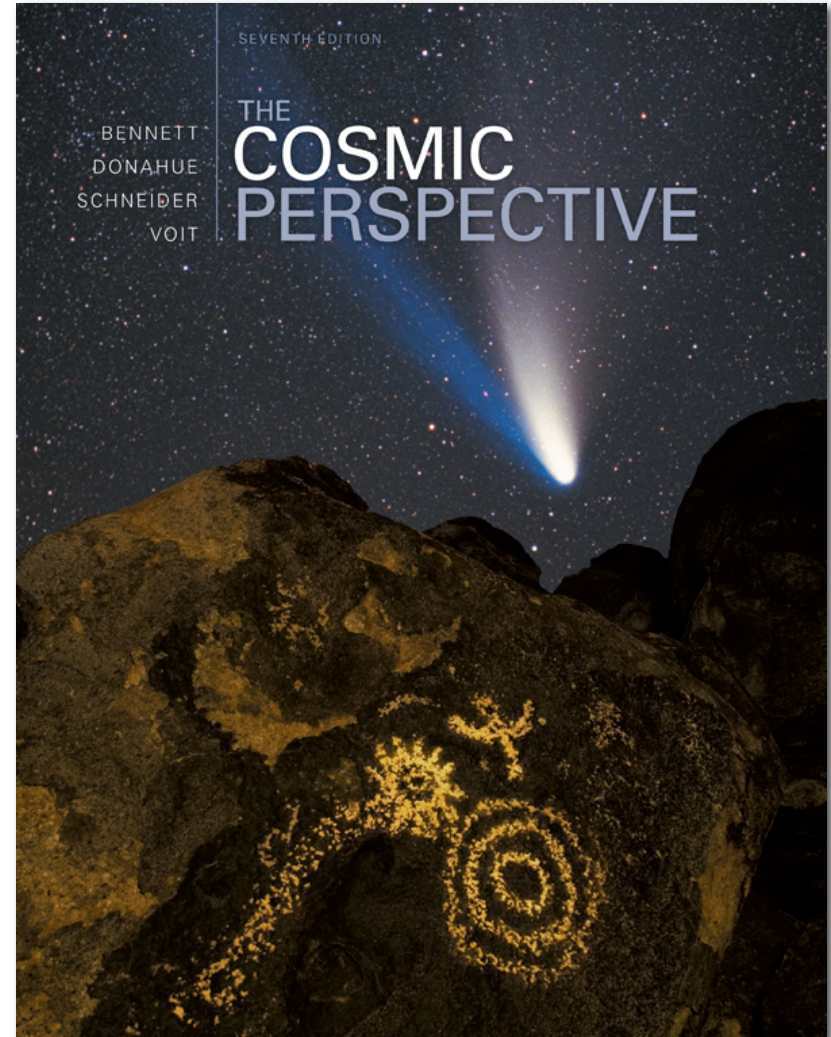


## The Cosmic Perspective

Seventh Edition

### Our Star



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How do photons get from the core of the Sun to the surface?

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If we can't see the Sun's interior, how do we know what it is like?

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- a) the balance of pressure and gravity in the Sun's core
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- a) solar luminosity and Earth-Sun distance
- b) solar temperature and Earth-Sun distance
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If fusion in the solar core ceased today, worldwide panic would break out tomorrow as the Sun began to grow dimmer.

- a) Yes, because Earth would quickly freeze over.
- b) Yes, because Earth would no longer be bound to the solar system and would drift into space.
- c) Yes, because the Sun would collapse and the planets would soon follow.
- d) No, it takes thousands of years for photons created in nuclear reactions at the solar core to reach the surface.
- e) No, the Sun would continue to glow brightly for billions of years because of gravitational contraction.



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