

“Time is life. It is irreversible and irreplaceable. To waste your time is to waste your life, but to master your time is to master your life and make the most of it.”

-- Alan Lakein

[The Belt of Orion](#)

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Alnitak, Alnilam, Mintaka

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Explanation: [Alnitak](#), [Alnilam](#), and [Mintaka](#), are the bright bluish stars from east to west (left to right) along the diagonal in this gorgeous cosmic vista. Otherwise known as the [Belt of Orion](#), these three blue supergiant stars are hotter and much more massive than the Sun. They lie about 1,500 light-years away, born [of Orion's](#) well-studied interstellar clouds. In fact, clouds of gas and dust adrift in this region have intriguing and some surprisingly familiar shapes, including the dark [Horsehead](#) Nebula and [Flame Nebula](#) near Alnitak at the lower left. The [famous Orion](#) Nebula itself lies off the bottom of this colorful star field. Recorded last December with a modified digital SLR camera and small telescope, the well-planned, [two frame mosaic](#) spans about 4 degrees on the sky.

descry dih-SKRY, *transitive verb*:

1. To catch sight of, especially something distant or obscure; to discern.
2. To discover by observation; to detect.

On a clear day, if there was no sun, you could **descry** (but barely) the ships roving out at anchor in Herne

Bay and count their masts.

-- Ferdinand Mount, Jem (and Sam)

The future appears to us neither as impenetrable darkness nor as broad daylight, but rather in a half-light, in which we can **descry** the rough form of the nearest objects, and vague outlines farther off.

-- Robert Conquest, Reflections on a Ravaged Century

It was a chill morning, and a moist fog hung low in the valley, so it was difficult to **descry** exactly what was in the cart edging its slow way up the hill, with a slight figure behind, bent double, toiling under the load.

-- Geraldine Brooks, Year of Wonders

Descry comes from Middle English, from Old French *descrier*, "to cry out, to proclaim." The Middle English word was originally applied to shouting one's discovery of an enemy, of game, or of land.

Here we are again, on the verge of February 2011. Did you have things to start in this new year? Would you like to read more books, lose weight, or spend more time with your family? Consider this your friendly reminder! Tomorrow is February 1 - start it with a plan. If I or anyone here at WebSmith can help you with anything, we are just an email or phone call away.

Best Regards,

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