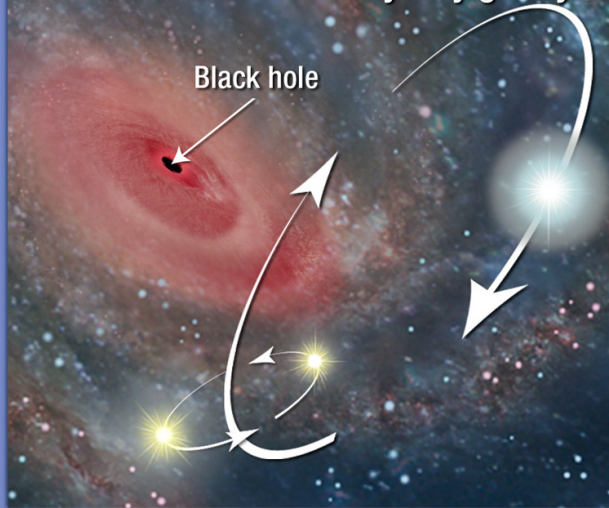
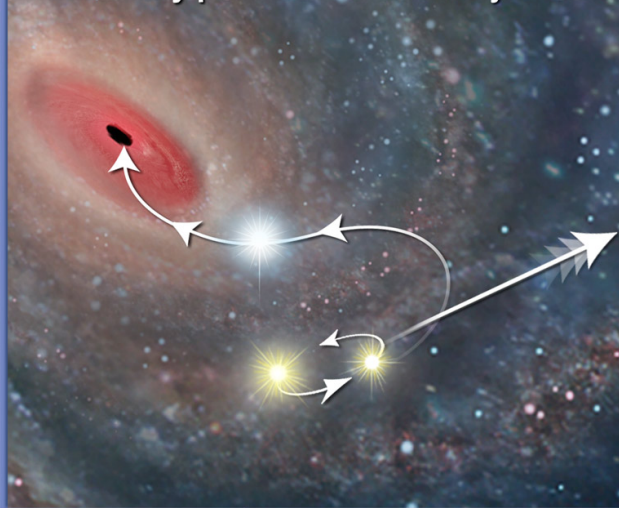


# Triple-star System Passes Near Milky Way's Central Black Hole

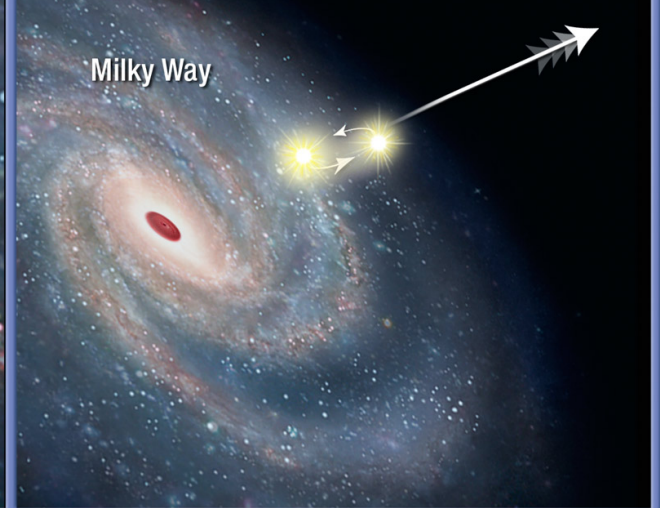
**1** Triple-star system moves near black hole at center of Milky Way galaxy.



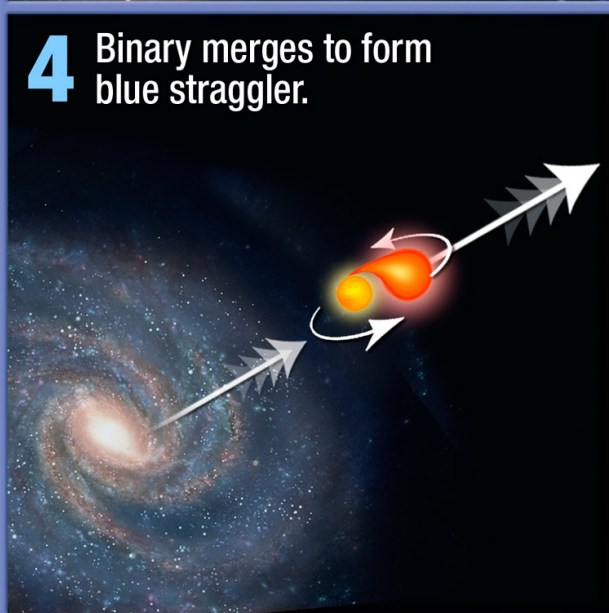
**2** One star falls toward black hole; binary pair recoils and is ejected.



**3** Binary system leaves galaxy.



**4** Binary merges to form blue straggler.



**5** Blue straggler travels away from galaxy.

