

Acriux

Legends in the Sky

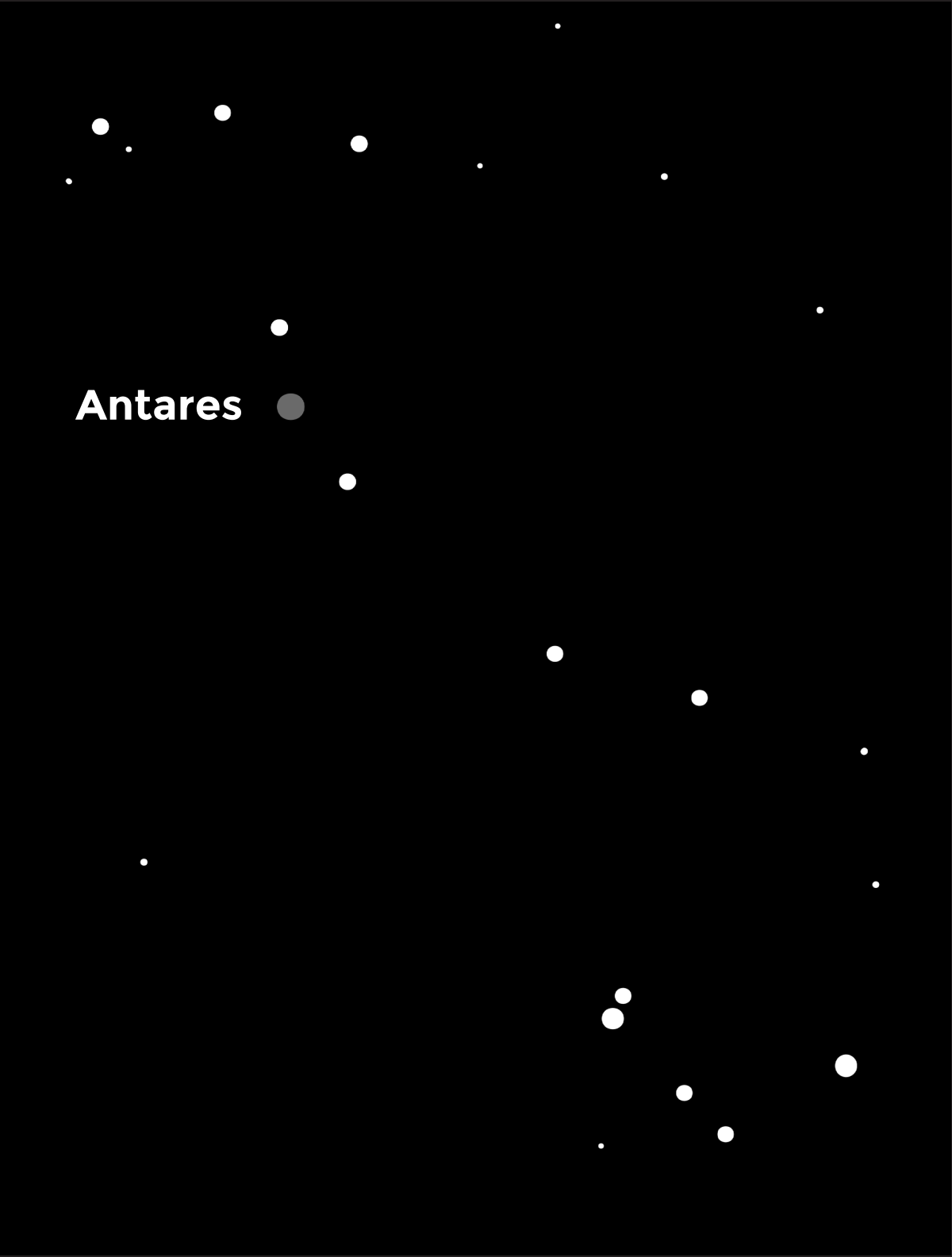
Everyone's sky,
each perspective unique

Acrux

In the southern hemisphere, Acrux is seen **all year long** and is the bright blue star in the smallest of the Greek constellations - the Southern Cross.

- The Maori people see an anchor.
- In southern Africa, the Sotho and others use these stars, the 4 giraffes, to help signal the growing season for crops.
- Incan civilization records a stairway that held deep significance to the culture.
- Some Indigenous Australians see the eye of an emu, with its body along the Milky Way.

Antares



Legends in the Sky

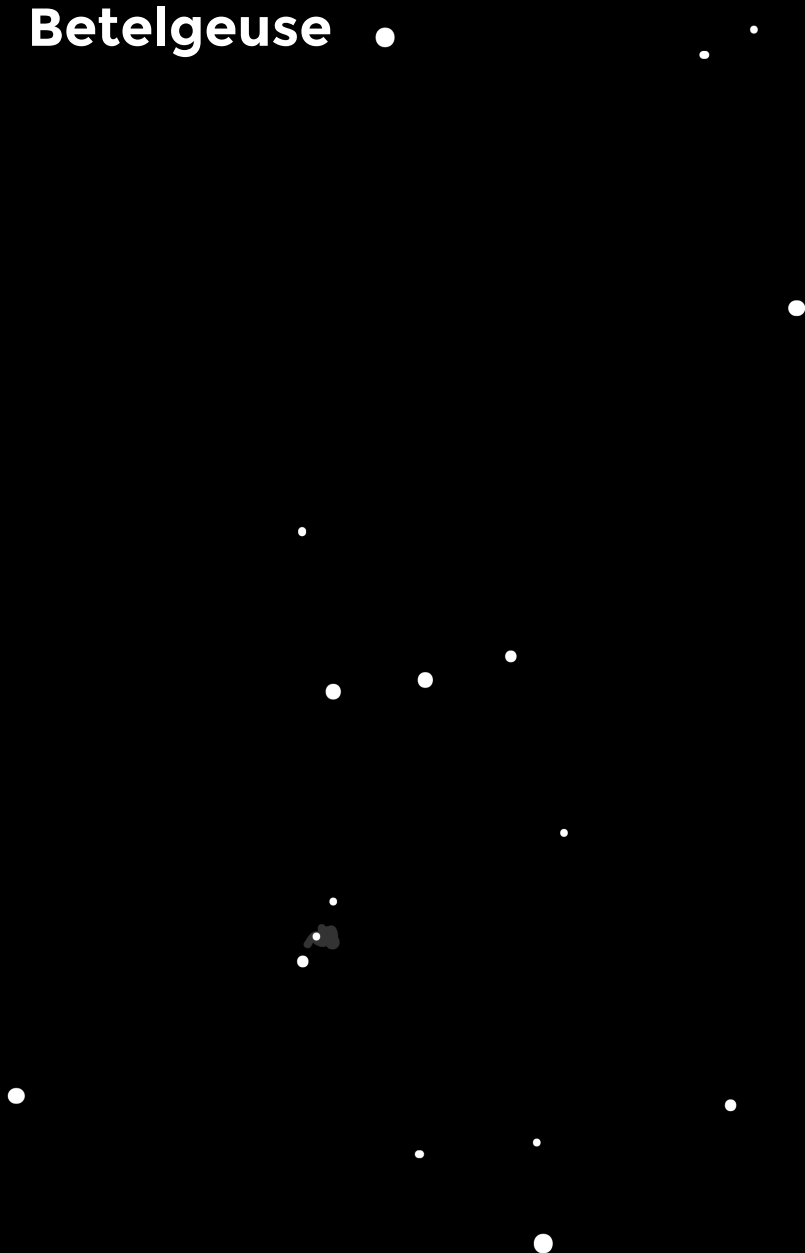
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Antares

From **June through September**, the red star Antares (an-tare-ees) has fascinated skygazers throughout history and around the world. The Greeks saw the heart of a scorpion and we call this area of the sky Scorpius.

- The Boorong natives of Australia see the red tail of a parrot.
- Both the Chinese and Japanese cultures see a heart.
- Indian legends call this star “the eldest one.”
- Ancient Egyptians saw a flock of birds in this area.

Betelgeuse ●



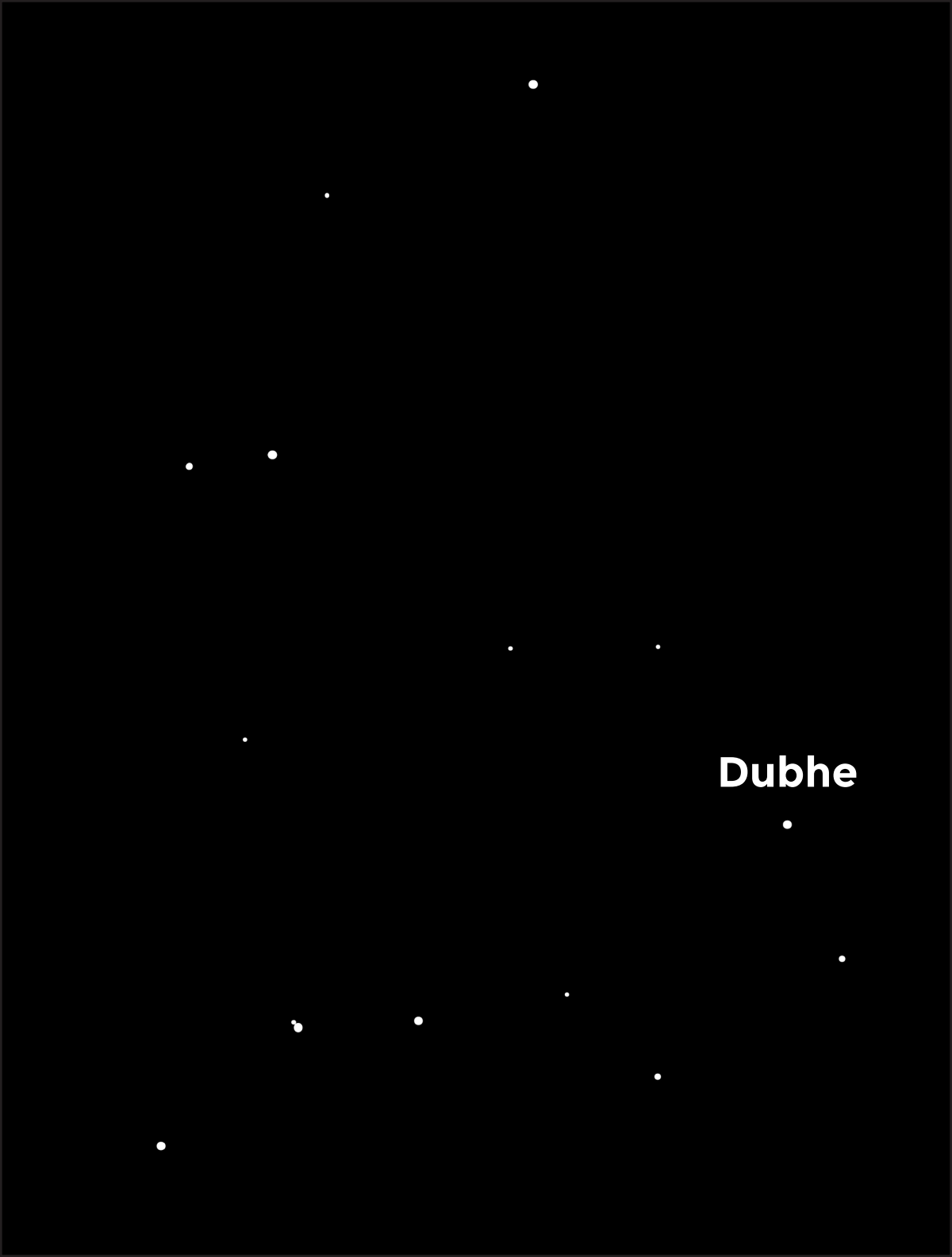
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Betelgeuse

In **November through February**, the red star Betelgeuse (bee-tel-juice or bay-tel-gyse) is high in the sky. In the Greek tradition, this is the shoulder of the hunter Orion, one of the most well-known constellations. These stars are important markers for cultures around the world.

- North American Dakota tribe see a buffalo embryo.
- Brazillian Tucano people see the handle of a wood carving tool.
- The Boorong (Aboriginal tribe) in Australia see a foot of a dancing man.
- Ancient Egyptians saw the father of gods, "Sah."
- Ancient Macedonians were a farming culture and saw a plough.



Dubhe

Legends in the Sky

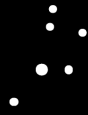
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Dubhe

Seen **all year long** in northern latitudes, Dubhe (doob-hah), is important to almost all cultures north of the equator. Greeks saw Ursa Major, a great bear, and we often refer to the stars near it as the asterism of the “Big Dipper.”

- The Sami people, indigenous to northern Norway, see the bow and arrow of a great hunter.
- In Hawaiian starlines, the star is a vertebrae in a backbone and this line is used extensively in navigation.
- Some Mongolian stargazers see seven Buddah.
- The Ojibwe tell of a type of weasel called a “fisher” whose appearance signaled the time to tap trees for syrup.

Pleiades



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Pleiades

From **November through April**, the open cluster of young stars, known to the Greeks as the Pleiades (plee-uh-dees) or seven sisters are easy to recognize. How many stars can you see?

- The Mapuche people of southern Chile see freshly dug potatoes. They use this set of stars to help predict the weather.
- Siberians see a duck's nest of eggs.
- Native people of Greenland see a pack of dogs surrounding a polar bear
- The Tupi see a white ostrich.