

# INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS



**NEEL ROBERTS**  
*Sky's the Limit*

During the cold war between the former Soviet Union and United States, an explosion of sci-fi films filled the movie houses of America.

Check out this short documentary at , but after the Second World War patrons had a hunger for aliens, UFOs and artificial intelligence.

One of the most daring books written in 1955 called "The Body Snatchers,; by novelist Jack Finney, soon became the famous 1956 movie "Invasion of the Body

Snatchers.

This was followed by the 1978 remake starring Donald Sutherland and Leonard Nimoy, and "Body Snatchers" in 1993.

Essentially all three dealt with the idea of seeds coming from outer space to replace the human race with duplicates which looked, acted and seemed like a perfect substitute, with the exception of their blank emotions.

## **SKY WATCH**

Download this month's sky free chart at <http://whatsouttonight.com/Resources/2020OctSkyWOT.pdf>

The Draconid meteor shower peaks on Wednesday, Oct. 7. It's best seen after twilight, facing north-northwest. While not as dramatic as other showers, the Draconids can occasionally spew hundreds of meteors an hour.

Fortunately, the waning gibbous moon will not rise until mid to late evening, providing a few hours of dark sky, starting at nightfall.

Did you catch the Zodiacal Light last month? It's a faint, roughly triangular, whitish glow seen in the night sky extended up from the vicinity of the sun along the ecliptic or zodiac. The best time to view it is from Saturday, Oct. 14 for two weeks in the east before dawn.

The Orionids meteor shower peaks on Wednesday, Oct. 21 for one to two hours before dawn. It can be seen just to the north of the constellation Orion's bright star, Betelgeuse, in a moonless sky. With the second-fastest entry velocity of the annual showers at 10-20 per hour, meteors from the Orionids produce yellow and green colours and have been known to produce an odd fireball.

There will be a blue moon on Halloween. This second full moon of October rises at 5:34 p.m. and will stay up until after midnight.

Neel Roberts is a local astronomer in southern Alberta and welcomes your comment at [Neel\\_Roberts@ptccanada.com](mailto:Neel_Roberts@ptccanada.com) and 403-560-6574. Check out his work at [www.ptccanada.com](http://www.ptccanada.com).