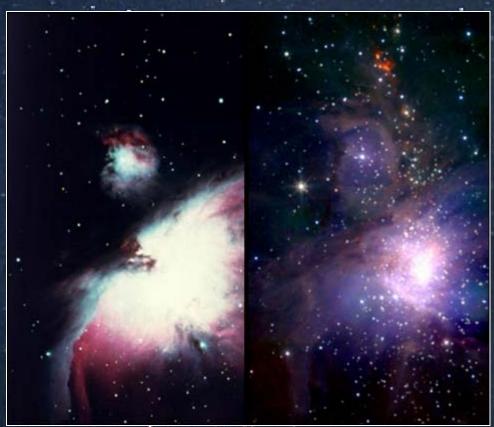
the orion nebula





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The familiar Orion Nebula (M42). What we see visually (lefthand image), is actually a bubble of excited hydrogen on the near side of a giant molecular cloud. Within the cloud, seen only in the infrared (right-hand image), are very young stars.