Ants used to be so superstitious! While they acknowledged, and always had, that much of their welfare was up to them, they had a common belief which had just been overcome in recent generations: humans. The word "human", when broken down into Ant-ian, meant "unkown beings of intelligence and great proportion." There was quite the established theology around humans, and many earnest arguments: were the humans only "out there", or could they be "in here, impacting the nest directly"? Were there different types of "human"?

Some ants had even claimed to have seen or heard humans (even walked on them!), but of course this was dismissed now as, if not silliness, outright lunacy. Ant scientists had studied all occasions of supposed human-ant interactions extensively, using the criteria that, if real, it should be possible to independently confirm the "facts" – and every time they had scrupulously re-created all the exact circumstances of the supposed human-visit, well … no human ever visited.

All ants knew that authorities throughout the history of ant-dom had agreed with and corroborated the existence of humans, but then, authorities of anything had very little credence these days – everyone knew the old guidances weren't really for the health of the community as a whole, but rather just superstitious and blind seeking of power by ignorant ants.

Many different hypotheses had been raised, and, some were so much more plausible that they were now widely known and accepted as 'fact'. For example, the "time of the big stick" when, just two generations ago, a huge stick (at least 3 cm long!) had poked and prodded into the nest, tearing out many tunnels, even going so far as to intrude into the egg sanctuary. Initially, many had cried: "human!" but now it was widely known and accepted that, as the anthill was at the base of a tree, and as from time to time strong winds can blow along the ground and even into the anthill itself, obviously a strange and capricious wind had cavorted that massive stick through much of the nest. Some ant scientists even claimed to have repeated this phenomenon in their lab, using (of course) scale model sticks and winds of comparative velocity.

There was also the time of the mysterious flattening of much of the mound, with all that was left being massive imprints of a curious treadmark. Again, scientists had come to the rescue, showing that this was the work of strange, heavy leaves

being thrown down from the tree above with massive force by again, a strange wind.

While ants widely agree that there are strange and massive beings outside of their hill, some of which are extremely fearful like the terrifying and somewhat mythical anteater (often used to scare young ants when they are being bad), it is now common knowledge that there is no such thing as a human, and there never was. With a belief of “never accept anything unless you can prove it with your own mandibles”, ants are now so much more enlightened and better off. Those who still insist on humans are now widely ridiculed and, well, best left to themselves.

… if you have ears to hear, then hear …