

WHO TELLS THE ANTS?

OH, I'M A MAN OF LEARNING  
WITH SCHOLARSHIP I'M BURNING  
~~XXXX~~ I WAS, YOU SEE, A PH.D. AT SEVEN.  
I WENT THRU UNIVERSITIES  
LIKE I WAS IN A MERCETES  
BECAME A FULL PROFESSOR, I CONFESS, SIR, AT ELEVEN.

THEY SAY THAT I'M A GENIUS, (WHICH MEANS I HAVE ACUITY  
IN EVERY FIELD OF THOUGHT \*\* A SORT OF MENTAL TUITTY-FRUITTY)

I WROTE THE LAWS OF PERJURY  
I DABBLE IN BRAIN SURGERY  
I'VE HUNDREDS OF DILPOMAS HOME  
FOR RESEARCH ON THE CHROMASOME  
I LATELY WON A PULTIZER  
FOR THE WAY I PLAY A WULITZER  
AND IT'S ANOTHER NOBEL  
EVERY TIME I HEAR THE DO'BELL!

I'VE MESMERIZED A LEOPARD  
AND NEVER BEEN IN JEOPARD  
I WON FIRST PRIZE AT FALCONRY  
AND NEVER LEFT MY BALCONRY  
AT OXFORD I DID CALCULOUS  
THEY SAID WAS JUST MIRALCULOUS  
AT HARVARD I TOLD HOOTON  
THINGS THAT NEWTON NEVER KNEWT'N  
WHEN I'M TIRED I UNWIND BY PLAYING NINETY GAME OF CHESS  
SIMULTANEOUSLY BY MAIL AND BY RAILWAY EXPRESS!

BUT IN SPITE OF ALL THE KNOWLEDGE I COMMAND  
THERE'S ONE THING I SHALL NEVER UNDERSTAND...

WHO TELLS THE ANTS WHEN WE'RE GOING ON A PICNIC ?  
A PICNIC, A PICNIC, THEY SIMPLY LOVE A PICNIC!  
WHO TELLS THE ANTS EXACTLY WHERE WE'LL BE?  
IF YOU KNOW WONT YOU PLEASE TELL ME?

I AM COUSIN EMILY  
 LAST YEAR I TOOK THE FAMILY  
 TO A PICNIC, BUT I THOUGHT I'D NOT SURVIVE IT!  
 THE ANTS ACTED CRUDELY  
 AND INTRUDED VERY RUDELY  
 DESPITE A SIGN IN RED WHICH SAID THE PICNIC GROUND WAS PRIVATE!'

EVERY ANT AND HIS RELATION SEEMED TO KNOW OUR DESTINATION  
 (I, MYSELF, BELIEVE SOMEONE SOLD THEM THE INFORMATION!)

WELL, THEY GATHERED UP THEIR FORCES  
 AND ATTACKED OUR SEVEN COURSES  
 FIRST THEY ATE THE RAREBIT  
 THEN INTO EV'RY PEAR BIT.  
 THEIR NASTY LITTLE NAVY  
 SAILED RIGHT ACROSS OUR GRAVY  
 SHOUTING SLOGANS VERY COCKILY,  
 LIKE, "BOYS! DONT SPARE THE BROCOLLI!"

THEY FINISHED UP THE CHUTNEY  
 AND WITH A FRIGHTFUL GLUTT'NY  
 THEY ATE UP ALL OUR CROQUET SETS!  
 (YOU SEE, THEY THOUGHT THEY WERE CROQUETTES)  
 AND WHERE DID ALL OUR SASSAFRAS GO?  
 DOWN THEIR HATCH WITH OUR TOBASCO!  
 PRUNE WHIPS, CINAMMIN BUNS  
 FISH AND CHIPS BY THE TONS  
 THEY ATE AND ATE AND ATE AND NEVER TOOK AN INTERMISSION  
 AND ALL THE MEN WERE BETTING THEY WERE GETTING A COMMISSION!

NOW, I'VE PUZZLED AND I'VE SAT AND RACKED MY BRAIN  
 SO IF YOU KNOW THE ANSWER, PLESSE EXPLAIN...

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THE NEXT TIME THAT WE JUNKETED  
 WE ~~KE~~ USED A PLAN I THUNKETED  
 TO GRIEVE THE ANTS AND LEAVE THEM FAR BEHIND.  
 YES, I DEVISED A STRATAGEM  
 AND OH, MY FRIENDS, WAS THAT A GEM!  
 A PLAN DESIGNED TO LOSE THEM AND CONFUSE THEM IN THE MIND!

(ha ha ha ha ha etc)

WE JOLLY WELL ANNOUNCED THAT WE WOULD PICNIC IN THE NORTH  
 AND THEN WE TURNED AROUND AND FOR THE SOUTH WE SALLIEDFORTH...

WE TOOK THE OLD BACK TRAIL  
 THEN WE SHINNIED DOWN THE RAIL  
 WE GRABBED THE HORSES SADDLED UP  
 AND MOUNTAIN INSIDE SKEDADDLED UP.  
 WE FAIRLY FLEW LIKE LIGHTNING  
 THE SUSPENSE WAS REALLY FRIGHT'NING  
 RIDING BACKWARDS WS WE WENT  
 JUST TO THROW THEM OFF THE SCENT.

(ho ho ho ho etc )

THEN WE TOOK THE SKI JUMP  
 (THE SIGHT OF WHICH MADE ME JUMP)  
 WE CROSSED THE PLAIN ON MOTORCYCLES  
 MET THE TRAIN THAT TOWED OUR CYCLES  
 CROSSED THE RIVER IN A ROWBOAT  
 SANK IT SO THE ANTS HAD NO BOAT  
 THEN WE HOPPED THE HELICOPTER  
 ON THE PICNIC GROUND WE PLOPPED 'ER  
 SET THE SPREAD AND BROKE THE BREAD AND QUICKLY STARTED EATING  
 WHEN SUDD'NLY ALL AROUND US CAME THE SOUND OF ANT-FEET BEATING!

THEY ALL HAD ARRIVED, WITH APPETITES BRINGING  
 AND AS THEY MARCHED WE CLEARLY HEARD THEM SINGING:

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WHO TELLS THE ANTS?

revised verse

I'M A CHILD PROTEGY  
A GENIUS AT BIOTOGY  
(I WAS, YOU SEE, A PH.D. AT SEVEN)  
I WENT THRU UNIVERSITIES  
LIKE I WAS IN A MERCEDES  
BECAME A FULL PROFESSOR AT ELEVEN.

MY LITTLE MIND, YOU'LL FIND, IS EXTREMELY SCIENTIFIC  
MY BRAIN MAINTAINS A TRAFFIC THAT'S TERRIFIC.

WHEN I'M TIRED I ~~XXXXX~~ UNWIND BY PLAYING NINETY GAMES OF CHESS  
SIMULTANEOUSLY BY MAIL AND BY RAILWAY EXPRESS.

BUT IN SPITE OF ALL THIS KNOWLEDGE I COMMAND  
THERE'S ONE THING I ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ CANNOT UNDERSTAND...

OH.....  
WHO TELLS THE ANTS WHEN WE'RE GOING ON A PICNIC?  
etc

OH, 2.  
I WENT UPON A PICNIC  
AND I TOOK SOME LEMONADE  
AND SOME COLE SLAW AND MY ~~XXXX~~ BEST GIRL  
WHO'S IN THE SECOND GRADE.

I TOOK HER ~~XXX~~ TO A BABBLING BROOK  
AND SAT HER <sup>FOR</sup> ON A STONE  
AND IT WAS <sup>SO</sup> FUN CAUSE BOY, OH BOY,  
WE THOUGHT WE WERE ALONE!

BUT....

WHO TELLS THE ANTS.....etc

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BUT....

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(revised version)

1.

I KNOW WHO SENDS THE RAIN FROM THE SKY  
I KNOW WHY COWS GIVE MILK  
AND ~~THE~~ BUTTER COMES FROM A BUTTERFLY  
AND SILKWORMS COME FROM SILK.

I KNOW ABOUT THE EASTER BUNNY  
AND THE HARDBOILED EGGS HE'S MAKIN'  
I KNOW THAT PIGS GET BIG AND FAT  
SO THEYCN BE PORKN BACN.

I KNOW THAT DOGS HAVE PUPPIES  
AND, <sup>THEY</sup> SOMETIMES TREES HAVE MOSS  
AND LITTLE FISH HAVE GUPPIES  
AND, <sup>THEY</sup> TURKEYS HAVE CRANBERRY SAUCE.

I KNOW WHY CHOO-CHOO TRAINS GO "CHOO CHOO!"  
AND WHY COO -COO CLOCKS GO "COO COO!"  
AND WHY KITTENS SIT'N PURR  
AND I KNOW THAT GOOD LITTLE BOYS NEVER THROW PAPAS STAMP COLLECTION  
DOWN THE ~~TOILET~~ CAUSE IF THEY DO THEN THEY'RE BAD LITTLE BOYS  
AND THEY GOTTA GO AND STAND WITH THEIR FINGERS IN THE FUSE-BOX!

OH, THESE ARE THINGS MY MOM AND DADDY  
TAUGHT ME ALL ABOUT  
BUT THERE'S ONE THING THAT EVEN DADDY  
JUST CANT FIGURE OUT...

INCINERATOR

(chos) OH....  
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etc