The text was recorded in September 1982 during the fieldwork undertaken for the *Atlas Linguistique d’Haïti* in Jean-Rabel (in the North-West of Haiti). It is a conversation between the interviewer Rogéda Dorcé and a young woman by the name of Emazil Pierre-Louis. Hurricane David hit Haiti severely on the 29 August 1979. Emazil Pierre-Louis had a very young baby at that time.

The text is written in the official orthography. In Fattier (1998(1): 37–38), the different Creole names for the hurricane can be found listed.

*Lè sïklòn David te pase m te*

when hurricane David ANT pass 1SG ANT

*When hurricane David passed, I was a*

*nours. I te fè on kout-tan, lapli,*
nursing.mother 3SG ANT make INDF cyclone rain

*nursing mother. There was a hurricane, and rain,*

*van, dlo desann, baay, i dêfète tout kay*

wind water go.down, things, 3SG dereof all house

*wind and water came down. It destroyed all roofs of the*

*houses and*

*dlo antre anndan kay. Lè sa a e*

water come.in inside house time DEM DEF HL

*water came into the houses. At that time I was a*
nouris m te nouris. Men wi nursing.mother 1SG ANT nursing.mother but yes nursing mother. Q/R: But yes,

m ann dan an a pitit la e lamp limen 1SG inside DEF with child DEF and lamp to.light I was inside with the child and the lamps stayed lit

tout lannuit, moun pa ka tiye lamp menm all night people NEG can switch.off lamp even all night long. People could not switch off their lamps.

menm menm. Men wi kay la defete l dekouvrir even even but yes house DEF deroofed 3SG discover Q/R: But if the house was without roof, it was discovered,

a di ou konnen kote m te kouche a e DEM say 2SG know place 1SG ANT lay.down DEF HL that means that you know, where I slept, it was

nan on kwen. M avanse kabann nan plis nan in INDF corner 1SG advance bed DEF more in in a corner. I pushed the bed a little bit further into

kwen an. Pou m pa mouye a timoun nan. corner DEF for 1SG NEG get.wet with child DEF the corner to not get wet with the baby.

Mpanse m di mezanmi genlè e lannuit pou 1SG think 1SG say friends seem HL night for Q/R: I thought, I said to myself: “Oh là là, it seems that the night is going to be
tanpèt van sa a e si kay la kraze
storm wind DEM DEF and if house DEF destroyed
stormy and what if the house gets destroyed,

mezamn! E si kay la tonbe sou moun nan nan
friends and if house DEF fall on people DEF in
oh là là! And what if the house falls on the people in

nwa! Radyo te bay pou tout moun pa dòmi
black radio ANT give for all people NEG sleep
the dark!" On the radio they had announced that no one
should go to bed

san alimèt, san gaz, fò ou gen ba(g)ay
without matches without petrol must 2SG have thing
without matches or petrol. You had to put these things

la met nan kay la pou si gen on move
DEF put in house DEF for if there.is INDF bad
in the house for the case that there would be a bad

kout-tan pou pase alimèt nan lan lannuit lan toujou.
hurricane for light match DEF in night DEF always
hurricane so that you always have a match to strike at night.

Tout bannan, tout te tonbe pye zaboka kraze,
all banana.tree, all ANT fall tree avocado destroy
All banana trees had fallen down, the avocado trees were
destroyed,

pye mango kraze, tout kay dekouwri nèt nèt.
tree mango destroy all house discover completely
the mango trees were destroyed, all houses had completely
lost their roofs......