

Glossed text

See p. 217-218 in:

Colot, Serge & Ludwig, Ralph. 2013. Guadeloupean Creole and Martinican Creole. In: Michaelis, Susanne Maria & Maurer, Philippe & Haspelmath, Martin & Huber, Magnus (eds.) *The Survey of Pidgin and Creole Languages, Vol. II: Portuguese-based, Spanish-based and French-based Languages*, 205-219. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

This text is from Ludwig et al. (2001, 70f.); it is the transcript of a conversation between Silvyàn Telchid (T) and her neighbour (L = *Lavwazin* ‘neighbor’) in Capesterre Belle-Eau, Guadeloupe, a 76 year old woman who is a nearly monolingual Creole speaker. Code-switched passages into French are indicated by capital letters. Date of recording: 18 April 1986.

T *sa an té vé sav*
DEM 1SG PST want
know
I would like to know

L *enben*
yeah
yeah

T *lè ou vwè ou té piti*
koté uit
when 2SG see 2SG PST young
around eight
when you were a child, when you
were about eight

a dis lanné
to ten years
or ten years old

L *wi*
yes
yes

T *léswa*
nights
at nights

L *enben*
yeah
yeah

T *avan ou té ay kouché*
adan fanmi
before 2SG PST go sleep in family
before going to bed, in your family,

a-w° ka zò té ka
fè
PREP-2SG PROG 2PL PST
IMP do
what were people doing?

L *èben nou té ka jwé*
cho
PART 1PL PST PROG play
hot
Well, we used to play.

nou té ka jwé
kaché
1PL PST PROG play
hide
We played hide and seek,

nou té ka k e e jwé
kachkach byen mabal
 1PL PST PROG HESIT play hide well my-ball
 we played “hide my ball”,

nou té ka jwé wonn é
 1PL PST PROG play
 round.dance and
 we played round dance and

nou té ka e e jwé°
é
 1PL PST PROG HESIT play
 and
 we played and

nou té ka konté
kont
 1PL PST PROG tell
 story
 we told stories.

T *dakò alò mwen osi lè ou*
vwè an
 alright then 1SG too
 when 1SG
 Alright! I used to do this too when

té piti an té konnèt sa
 PST young 1SG PST know it
 I was a child

L *wi*
 yes
 Sure!

T *mé sa an ka vwè alè*
lés wa
 but this 1SG PROG see
 now nights
 But nowadays, at nights, I can notice
 that

timoun pa'a ... fanmi a-yo pa'a
 children NEG.PROG family PREP-
 3SG NEG.PROG
 children do not ... the parents don't

rakonté yo kont ankò. A
prézan kont ou
 tell 3SG story anymore now story 2SG
 tell them stories anymore. Now,
 stories

ka vwè sé an télé sa ka fèt
 PROG see be in TV it PROG do
 are told in TV shows.

é ka ou ka pansé?
 and what 2SG PROG think?
 What do you think?

es ou ka pansé sa
bon é s/
 do 2SG PROG think this
 good and HESIT
 Do you think it's a good thing that

kont-la disparèt kon sa
timoun pa konnèt

story-DEF disappear like this
children NEG know
tales are becoming scarce? Children
don't know

ee biten a vou lè ou té piti?
HESIT thing PREP 2SG when
2SG PST young?
what you used to do when you were a
child.¹

L *ébyen mwen an ka touvé*
an tan an-mwen
well 1SG 1SG PROG think
in time PREP-1SG
Well, I do think things were better
during

té MIEUX ki tan a
prézan.
PST "better" than time
now
my childhood than they are now.

¹ Tales played an important role in Antillean oral traditions up to the arrival of TV in the 1960s. At night, children used to listen to tales and to take part in telling tales with adults after dinner.

AUSSI BIEN QUE QUAND *ou*
vwè
ou
té
 “as a matter of fact when” 2SG
 see
 2SG
 PST

Actually, in the past, when you

juwenn on granmoun an lari
fò ou té
 meet INDF adult in street
 must 2SG PST
 met an adult in the street you had to

di bonjou manzè entèl bonjou manzè Ernèstin
 tell hello Miss X hello miss Ernestine
 say, “Hello Miss X”, “Hello Miss
 Ernestine”.

alò manzè Ernèstin té ka réponn vou
 so miss Ernestine PST PROG answer 2SG
 Then Miss Ernestine would answer,

bonjou pitit a manman bon
é si ou
 hello child PREP mother well
 and if2SG
 “Hello little darling”. Well, and if
 you

pa té di madanm-la bonjou
i té ay di

NEG PST tell lady-DEF hello
3SG PST go tell
did not greet the lady, she would go
and tell

manman-w sa paran a-w
sa paran a-w
mother-2SG it parents PREP-2SG it parents PREP-2SG
the mother, your parents. Your
parents

ka ba-w on bèl
volé.
PROG give-2SG INDF serious
spanking
would give you a serious spanking.