Poetry in Haitian Creole

a guide for beginners and for translators

E W. VEDRINE CREOLE PROJECT

Emmanuel W. Védrine

DATE DUE

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Preface

Each poem is a part of the experience and the existence of a poet. Each poem is a lesson to all. In ***Poetry in Haitian Creole***, Emmanuel W. Védrine shows our people to be the descendants of an inventive, bodacious and courageous People. His poetry reflects the appreciation that he carries for his homeland and, most of all, relishies the pleasures of the soul.

Mr. Védrine is a poet who writes and speaks his mind... as far as I can tell, practically always. He follows his own road, believes in his own style, and pursues his own dreams, which are deeply rooted in the Haitian dream. He refuses to separate himself from the "common Haitian". He got his ideas for this book from personal experience while studying abroad in Germany, Spain, and the United States as well as from the Haitian political events of our times.

I want everyone to experience the satisfaction that good poetry can produce. Work hard at reading your beautiful Haitian Creole language by feeling and understanding it. In the end, you will discover many pleasures as you progress.

Good luck!

Tony Jean-Jacques M.Ed

Afrika! Afrika!

Chan m renmen anpil
Byenke m pa konprann lang nan.
Mwen apresye fason frè m yo chante l
Se yon nostalji pou retounen kay manman m!

Mwen te tande l an Ewòp
Chan ke tout moun renmen tande
Li bay anvi pou retounen
Kay manman m
Ak van an.

Afrika! Afrika!
Chan frè m yo
Kap vwayaje lòt kote
pou al anrichi
Lòt kilti

Anba pyebwa yo nan PARQUE DEL RETIRO
M wè se Ayiti m ye
M renmen briz la, tan an ak eko a.
Afrika! Afrika!
Bèl chan!

Lang

Kisa tout moun panse de lang?
Mwen renmen tande lòt lang depi timoun
Paske m te kirye de lòt kilti.
Ak esperyans mwen, m wè kijan zouti sa a enpòtan.

Zouti sa a konekte ak grenn je m
Pou m ka kominike ak antouraj mwen.
Poukisa m pat pale tout lang sou latè
Pou m te ka kominike ak linivè?

Pou mwen, pa gen lang ki pi bèl pase lòt
Paske nou chak pale lang pa nou.
Se yon zouti ki gen menm itilite
Kèlkeswa kote l fabrike.

Nan Forè Nwa

Mwen te ale la
Pou wè sak gen la
Pou medite sou lanati
Yon vwayaj ke m pat prepare.
Yon ete
Mwen pa ka bliye.
Se te yon rèv pou mwen
Pou wè m nan bwa sa yo
Yon kote FREIBURG
Kote anyen pa bouje
Kote sa a moun pa pale
Souvni yon ti nèg nwa
Nan Forè Nwa.

Pon Nèf ak Pon Women

Mwen wè m ant Pon Nèf
Ak Pon Women
Kote ki trè womantik
Nan vil SALAMANCA
Mwen ta renmen la
Chak fwa;
Se toujou yon rèv pou mwen.
Lè m la, m wè zwazo
Kap vole lwen
Byen lwen TORMES
Kote m ap bwè yon fwa ankò
Ant Pon Nèf
Ak Pon Women

Vwayajè

Gen anpil rezon
Ki fè moun vwayaje:
Gen vwayaj biznis
Gen vwayaj plezi elatriye...

Ou fè konesans
Yon lòt kilti
Konpòtman moun yo
Byen diferan

Yo kontan
Pou wè lòt moun
Ou aprann de yon lòt kilti
Moun yo byen kontan

Moun yo prè pou ede ou
Paske ou se etranje
Yo kirye
Men yo pa janm fache

Vakans rive

Vakans rive
Tout timoun ap ponpe
Kè yo tout kontan
Youn pa pantan
Mwa jen rive
Tout tristès ale
Lekòl fèmen
Tout timoun pral benyen
Mwa jen rive
Elèv ap selebre
Tout kote
Elèv pa bezwen etidye
Se lè pou yo jwe
Tout liv fèmen
Paske yo pap etidye pou ekzamen

Babay lekòl mwen an

Mwen tris pou m kite lekòl mwen an
Mwen kontan paske m an vakans
Ri yo vid
Yo sèk
M ka wè dlo
Nan je ti medam yo
Men m pa ka wè tristès nan kè yo
Nou pap janm menm kote a ankò
Jodiya se dènye fwa
Mwen tris pou di babay
E kilè nap wè
Men nou sonje
Bon moman yo,
Bon moman ke n te pase
Ak lanmou ki te simante nou.

Bò Oseyan an

Nou ale la
Pou respire bon lè
Pou gade moun kap pase
Moun kap kouri

Se dezyèm monn
Ke nou kreye
Mwen renmen lanati
Mwen renmen wè dlo

Apre kèk minit
Nou kite andwa sa a
Men souvni a rete nan memwa n
Mwen madichonnen otobis rapid la!

Kat lèt

Amou egziste epi li gen fòs.
Amou se yon bagay ke moun pa dwe badnen avè l.
Kijan nou ta defini l ?

Pou Voltè, se yon bagay natirèl ke imajinasyon bwode.
Pou Shekspi, se yon lafimen ki fèt pa vapè soupi.
Pou Getè, se sèl bagay ki endispansab nan lemonn.
Pou mwen, se sèlman kat lèt men ki pi enpòtan
nan alfabè Women an.

Kl definisyon ki pi bon?
Fòs sa a depase difinisyon sa yo.
Egzistans ak fòs amou
Se yon bagay ke moun pa ka esplike.

Kè m ak oumenm

Nan chimen lavi
Mwen kontre ak yon moun
Yon moun ki fè kè m palpite
Yon moun ki fè m pa ka dòmi
M pa konn kijan pou m esplike sa...
Petèt se souri l
Fason l pale ak mwen
Oubyen pasyans mwen genyen
Paske m renmen l
Petèt se fason l esprime santiman l
Oubyen dousè amou l
Oubyen eklè je l
Lè lap pale ak mwen
Moun sa a se oumenm;
Yon moun ki nan fon kè m.

Kilè wap retounen?

Ou kite m san okenn souvni,
Ou kite m san yon ti bo.
Fason ou konpòte ou
Ban m lapenn
Ak tristès
Ou kite m pou kò m
Epi ou fè m rete ap tann
Kounyeya, ou tankou yon zwazo
Kap vole nan syèl la
San okenn nich
Sak pase ou pitit?
Kote pwomès ou yo?
Di m sak pase,
Kilè wap retounen?

Nan Pak la

Yon Pak ki rete nan memwa nou
Yon Pak ki pouse n pou n panse
Non sèlman a lanati
Men a noumenm

FRANKLIN PARK
Pak ki ban n ide
Diferan monn tèrès
Yon Pak kote zannimo
Yo divize selon espès yo.

Yon Pak ki pouse n pou n panse
Etan animo rezone
Kote n kreye pwòp monn nou
Kote ki grave nan memwa nou.

Sa ou dwe konnen

Mwen vle ou konnen
Ke gen yon moun kap panse a ou
Yon moun ki vle ede ou
Sou wout la
Yon moun ki ka solisyone pwoblèm ou
Yon moun ki vle ak you
Lè solèy la klere
Ak lè lapli tonbe
Mwen vle ou konnen
Ke gen yon moun
Ki pap kite ou pou kò ou
Yon moun ki panse a ou
Yon moun ke ou ka pale ak li san pwoblèm
Epi kè ou ap kontan
Premye fwa wap kontan konsa
Se mwenmenm
Yon moun ki panse a oumenm.

Sou Sou Sou

Li se youn nan chante m pi renmen
Chak lè m tande l
Mwen sonje Sou
Sou Sou Sou ak Sou bèl.

Plis mwen tande l
Se plis mwen panse a Sou
Se yon bagay
Ke Sou pa te janm panse

Poukisa m pat kontre ak Sou
Anvan m te tande Sou Sou Sou?
Plis mwen tande Sou Sou Sou,
Se plis mwen santi m pi pre Sou

Souvni

Mwen sonje jou
Premye randevou nou
Jan ou te damou pou mwen
Men kounyeya, ou prale
Ou fè kòmsi m pat ekziste
Ou gen entansyon kite m
Mwen swete ou bòn chans
Men yon jou wa retounen nan sous mwen an
Pou koupe swaf ou
Mwen sonje ou te di
Ke wap toujou avè m
Men nan moman nwa sa yo,
Ou bliye pwomès sa a.

Triyang souwè

Ou antoure ak souwè
Jou anivèsè ou
Gran jou sa a nan ane a
Yon prensès fèt
Tout moun ap selebre ak ou
Yon mwa
Ki fè moun sonje anivèsè yon wa.
Manman ou te fè meyè chwa
Pou rezève jou sa a pou ou.
Gade yon kado anivèsè!
Gade yon fèt pou dat nesans ou!
Jou ke ou te fèt
Sezon lè nèj ap tonbe
Sezon lè tout kè kontan
Moun santi yo ere
Tout kote
Yon prensès fèt
Nan fen yon ane.

Mwen sonje ou

Chak lè,
Chak minit
Chak segonn
Mwen sonje ou
Mwen pataje ak ou
Doulè kè ou
Mwen konprann santiman ou
Oumenm ki dispoze
Ede lòt moun
Nan moman patikilye sa a
Nan ane a
Pafwa
Sa pase konsa
Nan lavi a
men m panse a ou
Mwen sonje ou.

Ala traka pou demokrasi

Kijan ou defini demokrasi?
Kisa demokrasi vle di?
Èske gen demokrasi Ayiti?
Kijan ou wè demokrasi?
Ki demokrasi
Wap defini?
Pap vin pale m de bisuit rasi
Pou di m se demokrasi
Wap defini!
Tout moun pale de demokrasi
Sèjousi:
Magouyè pale de demokrasi
Avadra Ayiti
Pale anpil de demokrasi
De ki demokrasi?
Ou konn sa demokrasi
Vle di?
Bon ki demokrasi
Wap defini:
Diktatè
Enpav
Malveyan
Opresè
Kap
Ravaje
Ayisyen
Sèlman
Iwonikman?

Ayisyen ak Chinwa

Ki diferans ki genyen ant yon
Ayisyen ak yon Chinwa?
Repons lan byen fasil:
Toulede se vwayajè.

Chinwa a te kòmanse vwayaje depi lontan.
Jodiya Ayisyen an gaye pa nenpòt ti van.
Lap chèche yon refij
Men l pa janm gen rezon devan okenn jij.

Chinwa a chanpyon nan vwayaje.
Yo respekte l kote l pase.
Li fyè de kilti li
Epi l viv tankou zwazo nan lanati.

Ayisyen an kite peyi li
E li panse retounen lakay li.
Li gen gwo lide
Poutèt sa l pa fache.

Ayisyen, yon metis

Ayisyen, kisa sa vle di?
Ayisyen se yon metis,
Ayisyen reyalize sa:

Konpòtman l ak fason
Li panse, diferan
Eritaj lòt kontinan
Se yon kilti rich de tout fason

Ayisyen, pitit Ewòp ak Afrik
Gade ou kounyeya!
Yon timoun ki fèt an Amerik
O! Premye pitit Afrik!

Ayiti nan fen ventyèm syèk

Kikote nou rive nan fen ventyèm syèk?
Kisa nou akonpli apre 189 ane endepandans ?
Eske n prepare
Pou n selebre
Premye janvye 2004?
Yon dat kap fè desanzan
Desanzan kisa?
Eske n ka di desanzan endepandans?
Apre 189 ane,
Nou kontinye ap rale
Men kilè nap leve kanpe
Pou n mache?
Ann gade dèyè
Pou wè sa n fè!
Ann chita pou n pale!
Ann reflechi
Pou wè sa n akonpli!
Ann gade
Pou wè kote n rive!
Kikote Ayiti ye
Apre 189 ane?
Nou kontinye ap rale
Men kilè nap leve kanpe?

Ayiti pou Ayisyen

A chak fwa map panse a peyi m,
De rigòl dlo sot nan je m.
Se yon kote m pa ka bliye
Paske se la lonbrik mwen plante.

Ayiti, Ayiti, kilè wap lib tout bon?
Ayisyen, Ayisyen, kilè nap met tèt ansanm?
Ann sispann di *chen manje chen*!
Ann sispann di *chak koukouy klere pou je ou*!

Si granpapa nou yo pat met tèt ansanm,
Nou pa ta gen patri sa a.
Ayisyen, Ayisyen, yon sèl dwèt pa manje kalalou
Ayisyen, Ayisyen, ann travay pou peyi nou!

Dezyèm endepandans

Mwen tande Ayiti libere 7 fevriye 86
Mwen bay de kout ri, kwe kwe
Ann sispann kwè nan Tonton Nwèl!
Ann sispann bwè nan bibon!
Ann kòmanse bwè nan boutèy!
De ki endepandans wap pale?
Mwen bay de kout ri, kwe kwe.
Mwen bay de kout ri, kwe kwe!
Ou ka pran sant yon dezyèm endepandans.
Se yon bèl rèv men li poko fèt.
Se yon ti bebe ki nan vant toujou
Men li poko akouche.
Ayiti ap endepandan se lè nout tout ini
Ayiti ap endepandan se lè tout chen va souse yon zo
Ayiti ap endepandan se lè tout fatra va disparèt.
Se lè tout chen va manje ak chat
Se lè tout lou va manje va manje ak ti mouton
Se lè tout tout moun bwete va mache dwat
Se lè tout avèg va wè
Se lè dwa de lòm pap vle di dwèt moun
Se lè Tipouchon va di Sentaniz ann fè yon sèl
Nou tout se Ayisyen; ann pouse pou pi devan!
Se lè sa a na di: dezyèm endepandans!

Divalye ak Peyi Dayiti

Diktatè
Initil
Vòlè
Asasen
Lougawou
Yo
Etabli

ak

Peyi
Etranje
Yo
Iyore

Diktatè
Ayisyen
Yap
Iwonize
Toutan
Isit.

Esprime ou !

Kisa? Se nan peyi m mwen ye.
Kisa ou vle m pale?
Se lang zansèt mwen te kite.
«Se nan yon biwo ou ye».
O, o tande koze!
Se kreyòl map pale!

Mwen nan peyi m
Epi se lang kilti m.
Sa pou m fè pou enbesil
Kap ri m!

Prèske tout chan m yo an kreyòl.
Lè map chèche bèl pawòl,
M toujou panse an kreyòl
Menn lè yo pa te vle m pale l lekòl.

Fènwè ak klète an 1991

Ane 1991 se yon lòt paj Istwa Dayiti
Klète te kòmanse ap blayi
Fènwè te kòmanse ap redui
Pèp la te kòmanse wè
Paske l te gen lontan ap mache nan fènwè
Magouyè te tankou
Chwal mawon
Yo kenbe nan chemen
Jennen
Yo te kòm chat chen te fè malonnèt
Anba pye zaboka
Mèkredi granmmaten
An 1991 pentad vole
Kalòj tranble
Kòk kalite beke
Pèp kanpe
An 1991 gason ak fanm vanyan kanpe
Magouyè move
Istwa pat rete kanpe
Li te kontinye ap mache
Zòt boude
Paske pèp tap pale
Pèp tap voye leson monte
Magouyè fè kout san

Nan kè pa kontan
Pèp la te gen espwa
Li te fatige pote yon kwa
Magouyè te kontinye
Ap eseye fè chemen koupe
Pou bloke wout demokrasi
Yo te pè klète ki te blayi
Nan peyi Dayiti
Magouyè sote
Malveyan gen kè kase
Jounen sèt fevriye
Pwòpte tout kote
Ou pase
pèp la te byen respire
Li te kontan
Men magouyè fè kout san
Pi devan
Magouyè bay panzou pouvwa
Pou detwi lespwa
Men yo pran nan twa wa.

Fòk sa fini!

Lè m gade Ayiti, lè m gade Ayisyen,
M rele de rant dlo nan je.
Anmwe! Anmwe! Ayisyen, gade kote nou ye!
Ann sèmante pou n di fòk sa fini!

Ann sèmante pou frè nou yo pa fè manje reken!
Ann sèmante pou nou pa vann yo lòt bò dlo!
Frè m yo, kilè nap di fòk sa fini?
Kilè nap goumen pou prestij nou?

Pou sa fini
Fòk nou ini,
Fòk nou chase tout malfini!
Si nou ini,
Yon jou sa va fini.

Jimnastik politik

Politik tonbe-leve
Politik woule m de bò
Reyinyon monte-desann lachanm
Bèl tilititi konstitisyonèl
Diskou blòf
Onondipè pou pèp
Ensiswatil pou magouyè
Reyinyon monte-desann
Pou pèp kontinye ap tann
Jiskaske I fin tounen pwatann
Lo kontinye
Ap anpile:
Lo E-A
Lo N-I
Lakonstitisyon di
Politik de je pete
Politik pou pèp pa janm mache
Politik kap fè pèp dòmi
Kòmsi se malad yo anestezi
Magouyè ap fè move piwèt
Pou jwe vye jwèt
Lanjelis bare magouyè
Pèp kòmanse wè klè
Menmsi I pa ka li

Menmsi I pa ka ekri
Magouyè ap pale an fransè
Nan palè
Yap pale de demokrasi
Bisuit rasi
Pou fè pèp dòmi
Panzouyis trant septanm
Kap fè negosiyasyon magouy
Magouyè ki panse
Pèp pa wè klè
Nan jwèt kach-kach liben
Lago, bijou
Lago fini al bouche
Mwen kenbe w
Se tou pa w
Al kache.

Kikote Ayiti Ye?

Nan gran ventyèm syèk,
Yo poze m kesyon sa a.
Gen moun sou latè
Ki poko konnen nou ankò.

Malgre yo konsidere nou kòm Jwif eran,
Nou genyen yon santiman.
Ayisyen, yo met tout chay sou do nou
Nan kontinan sa a?

Reveye Ayisyen!
Nan gran ventyèm syèk wap dòmi.
Ou te konn leve
Anvan kòk chante
Reveye, solèy leve!

Kisa ou ye?

Kisa ou ye? Ou konnen kisa ou ye.
Èske se fason ou parèt nan je moun
Pou yo konnen kisa ou ye?
Èske se sa yo di de ou
Pou konnen kisa ou ye?

Gen de fwa mwen bay de kout ri, kwe kwe
lè yo pran yon moun pou sa li pa pa ye.
Konbyen fot nou fè jan nou jije moun pafwa?
Ou ka wè jan yon moun abiye men ou pa ka wè kè l.

Kisa ou ye? Èske se sosyete a ki pou fè pòtre ou?
Kijan ou fè pòtre sosyete a?
Kisa ou ka bay pou chanje vizaj lemonn?
Èske se paspò ou ki di sa ou ye?
Di m kisa ou ye epi nou chak ka pote
Yon pyè nan rekonstriksyon monn lan.

Kote m te fèt

Mwen ta ka fèt lòt kote nan Amerik la:
Amerikdinò
Oubyen
Amerikdisid.
Mwen ta ka fèt tou an Afrik,
Ewòp oubyen an Azi...
Men mwen fèt Ayiti.
Yon tè ki genyen yon istwa byen long;
Yon istwa ki toujou nan tèt mwen
Yon kote mwen kòmanse respire,
Kote mwen kòmanse obsève
Sa moun sou latè bezwen...

Lè Ayiti te Ayiti

Lè Ayiti te Ayiti,
Yo te rele l «La perle des Antilles»
Lè Ayiti te Ayiti, yo te konn respekte Ayisyen.
Lè Ayiti te Ayiti,
Reken yo pat konn fete.
Lè Ayiti te Ayiti,
Ayisyen te ti prens aletranje.
Lè Ayiti te Ayiti,
Zòt te konn sezi;
Yo pat konn meprize n
Yo te konn respekte n.
Lè nou al lòt bò dlo,
Nou pat konn pran ti bato
Pou al peri nan dlo.
Tout kote n pase yo te konn bat bravo.
Lè Ayiti te Ayiti,
Ayiti cheri te bèl nègès
Li pat mèg
Men l te gen ti grès.
Lè Ayiti te Ayiti,
Moun te konn al Bisantnè
Pou al pran ti lè.
Lè Ayiti te Ayiti,
Yo te konn rele n
Premye Nwa ki trase chemen libète,
Premye Nwa ki konjige vèb libere,
Premye Nwa
Ki pote laviktwa
Nan batay pou libète,
Pèp Nwa ki bwòdè
Ki mache tèt anlè.
Lè Ayiti te Ayiti,
Ayisyen pat konn pati
Al pran imilyasyon lòt peyi.

Montre m pito

Pechè, m abitwe ak ou.
Pa fè m kado ti grenn chak kou.
Ou sèmante
Pou pa montre m peche.
Ou refize
Montre m ranje privye.
Ou ban m al plen kalbas
Men ou pa montre m tann nas.
Ou mennen m al achte
Men ou pa montre m plante.
Pechè, pap ban m ti grenn chak jou
Men montre m kenbe tou!
Pechè, pap ban m sèlman al plen kalbas
Men montre m tann nas!
Pechè, pap annik mennen m nan mache
Men montre m plante.

Manman, pa ban m tete ankò

Li lè pou sevre m
Mwen fè dan
Mwen ka mòde ou
Tanpri souple
Ban m bon jan manje
Pou m manje
Mwen bezwen bon jan
Vitamin pou m kanpe
Pap ban m ti jèbè
Ak ti labouyi nan ti kiyè!
Pap ban m bwè nan bibon
Mwen pa ti bebe
Pa pran m pou egare!
Manman, tranpri souple
Pa kontinye
Ban m tete
M wè lèt ou sale
Li ka ban m vant pase
Kite m bwè lèt bouyi
Pap ban m ti labouyi
Ou konnen m pa timoun piti
Manman, pa ban m tete
Mwen kòmanse pale.

Pèp Ayisyen an 1990

Apre tranntwazan tèt chaje
Sankatrevensis rekòt kafe
Bourik travay bay chwal galonnen
Abraram di sètase
Pèp la panse klòch libète
Te sonnen
Li te gen yon bèl espwa
Nan fèy papye listwa
Li panse tout panzouyis yo te konvèti
Li panse lavalas
Te netwaye tout kras
Sèz desanm te plante lajwa nan kè l
Li te fete yon bèl Nwèl
Li te pran sant yon demokrasi
Yo tout te ini
Pou netwaye
Fè pwòpte
Tout kote
Zòt te di: «apre dans tanbou lou»
Men pèp la te di: «men anpil chay pa lou»
Malgre tout difikilte
Li te leve kanpe
Magouyè te boude
Lè yo wè pèp konn sa yo vle

O, o jwèt mele
Tout bon vre!
Kandida magouyè tap eseye achte
Konsyans pèp ak lajan
Jan sa te konn fèt avan
Tout magouyè te pè
Tèlman pè a te popilè
Pèp la bay ekzamen final la
Jou sèz desanm nan peyi a
Yon sèl elèv pase
Tout lòt yo koule.

Peyizan Ayisyen

Pèp
Enpòtan
Yap
Iwonize
Zonbifye
Andòmi
Neglije

Pèp
Enpòtan
Yap
Iwonize
Zongle
Anbete
Nwi

Abitan
Yo
Iyore,
Sa
Yap
Eseye
Nye.

Pitit ak manman adoktif li

Pitit, manman sa a te adokte ou
Men ou konn vrè manman ou.
Yon lòt te adokte ou
Byen lontan
Men yo toujou gen yon rezon

Yon timoun pa ka gen
De manman
An menm tan.
Ti minè, timoun adokte, timoun gate!
E ki konplètman esplwate!

Gade frè ou yo kounyeya!
Van bwote yo
Timoun adoktif, yo te konn respekte lontan
Ini nou kounyeya!

Poukisa se Ayisyen?

Premye pèp nwa endepandan nan lemonn
Premye pitit Ewòp ak Afrik
Poukisa ou kote ou ye a kounyeya?
Poukisa se sou do ou yo lage tout chay?
Poukisa frè m yo ap mouri nan dlo?
Poukisa yap maltrete yo Gwanntanamo?
Poukisa se nou yo di ki pote sida?
Poukisa yo pa vle san nou?
San nou ki te koule
Pou bay lòt libète
Poukisa se Ayisyen yo meprize?
Poukisa se nou yo bay vye chay pote?

Premye ak dènye

Li te premye pitit Afrik
E kounyeya, yo konsidere l
Kòm dènye
An Amerik

Li te gen kat las yo nan men l.
Li te genyen premye fwa a;
Se te yon sipriz pou ènmi l yo.

Kounyeya, yap moke l
Paske yo te viktim yon lè
E yo sonje viktwa sa a ankò

Istwa inoubliyab sa a
Toujou ba l espwa
Malgre yo konsidere l
Kòm dènye
Se li k te premye.

Refleksyon sou onz septanm

Yon kout chapo pou tout kretyen vivan
Ki te tonbe anba bal sanmanman,
Yon kout chapo pou fanm vanyan,
Yon kout chapo pou gason kanson
Ki te viktim de malveyan
Anba kout kouto
Nan Legliz Senjanbosko.
Se yon dat enpòtan
Pou tout Ayisyen konsekan
Pou fè yon refleksyon.
Nou pa bliye san inosan ki te koule,
Nou sonje Brasa Wouj yo ki merite jije
E kondane.
Yo ka kraze-brize,
Yo ka boule,
Yo ka touye pitit Bondye,
Yo ka ponyade moun konsekan
Pou eseye fè lòt pantan
Men sa pap sispann lit la vanse
Paske pèp souvren an pap dòmi
Li la ap veye.

Reken yo kontinye ap fete

Reken yo kontinye ap fete
Pou frè m yo yap manje
Kè yo kontan
Pou nouriti yo jwenn toutan
Yo kontinye ap fete
Paske frè m yo kontinye ap vwayaje
Se pa vle yo vle
Men fò n gade nan ki sitiyasyon yo ye
Reken yo kontinye ap fete
Paske yo toujou jwenn manje
Yo konnen frè m yo
Pral Gwanntanamo
Yo pa janm di yon mo
Frè m yo kontinye ap pati
Paske yo pa gen peyi
Reken yo toujou jwenn manje
Paske frè m yo toujou ap deplase
Reken yo toujou jwenn lanouriti
Paske frè m yo kontinye ap mouri
Reken yo kontinye ap fete
Pou frè m yo yap manje

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Pèp la panse li te delibere
Li panse l te delivre
Poutan li te malkalkile
Li te mal panse
Li panse li ta pral mache
Epi l sot tonbe
Li panse sèt fevriye
Tap ba l libète
Men okenn ènmi
Pa tap dòmi
Li panse l ta pral respire
Men pi devan li al toufe
Li jwe katrevensis nan lotri
Epi swasantuit soti
Pèp la panse tout bagay te fini
Tandiske te plen malfini
Li panse l te sevre
Epoutan l te nan tete
Apre sa bèl konstitisyon ekri
pou fè plis tilititi
Pèp la te kontan
Paske l inosan
Li vle respire
Men lap sivoke

Sezon wouj

Sezon sa a sot ravaje pèp mwen an
Yon pèp kap karese espwa yon
Demokrasi apre plis ke trantan anprizone
Sezon sa a ki eseye touye espwa 16 desanm nan
Frape tout moun ki reve yon demokrasi tou nèf
Men Sezon sa a pa la pou lontan
Sezon wouj se yon sezon kote magouyè gen pouvwa a
Men yo pa gen otorite.
Wi, yon pouvwa tanporè kote yap rejwi
Yo gen pouvwa pou touye inosan
Pou fabrike ak men wouj yo yon fòm de demokrasi
Yon demokrasi ki pa gen oken rapò
Ak demokrasi 7 fevriye 91 lan
Van sa a ki sot soufle a paralize
Anpil aktivite;
Li pouse pèp la pou l al viv nan kache
E li pa ka esprime panse l
Nan tout peyi a, ou ka wè yon larivyè san
Ke Sezon sa a kite
Poukisa?
Se jis pou yon chwa,
Wi, chwa 16 desanm 90!
Sezon sa a pèmèt pèp Ayisyen an pou l demaske
Tout madigra ki bloke wout demokrasi a
Li pèmèt li wè tou vrè patriyòt kap lite
Pou yon lòt Ayiti.

Si m te, m ta...

Si m te Desalin,
M ta libere Ayiti ankò
Si m te Tousen,
M ta reekri
Istwa Dayiti
Si m te wa Kristòf,
M ta rebati
Ayiti
Si m te Kapwalamò,
M ta tonbe m leve
Epi m kontinye ap galope
Si m te Chalmayperal,
M ta fyè
M ta kontinye mache bwòdè
M ta tankou yon zetwal
Kap briye
Kote ki pa klere
M ta mache chalmayperalteman
Ak kè kontan
San m pa pantan
Malgre tout touman
Tout vye pikan.
Si m te ka rekolonize Ayiti,
M ta fè l tounen yon paradi.

Si m te ka rekolonize Ayiti,
M ta simen plan lanmou
Toupatou
M ta fè pepinyè lanmou
Pou al plante
Lòt kote.
Si m te ka rekolonize Ayiti,
M ta repran fyète
Desalin ak Tousen te pote
Zòt tap respekte m
Li pa ta meprize m.
Si m te chèfseksyon
Nan yon seksyon,
M ta aji byen ak peyizan
Epi tout tap kontan.
Si m te militè,
M ta mache tèt anlè
Pèp la pa tap wè m kòm ènmi
Men yon zanmi
Kap pwoteje l
Ki pap tire l.
Si m te ka reekri
Istwa Dayiti,
Ala pawòl mwen ta di!

Tande kri peyizan yo !

Grangou pa dous
Grangou ap touye nou
Yo vòlè tè nou
Pri manje monte bwa
Lapli pa tonbe
Nou bezwen ponp dlo
Pou wouze tè yo
Peyizan yo ap pati
Al lòt peyi
Yo kouri dèyè yo lòt bò dlo
Epi yo kontinye ap pran dlo
Men se pa fòt yo
Krim tribòbabò
Nan yon peyi
Fòk nou rebati Ayiti
Fòk mizè ak krim
Fini
Ayiti !

Te kwè nou tout se Ayisyen

Yon pòsyon pa jwenn
Lòt pòsyon gonfle
Genyen ki gonfle chak jou
Gen lòt k al dòmi grangou
Ou mal bat kat la
Ou kenbe tout bon zèl yo
Rebat li pou mwen
Mwen pa nan koken
Brase chodyè a
Lap bouyi yon sèl bò
Separe manje a
Separe l ankò
Yon pòsyon pa jwenn.
Nou tout se frè
Ann eseye viv anpè
Pa pete m
Sispann blofe m
Ann pale
Ann diskite
Nou tout fèt menm kote
Ann chita pou n pale.
Gade map penpenyen
Epi nap byen mennen
Nap manje vant plen
Epi map mouri lafen
Nap avanse
Epi map rekile
Nap naje
Epi map koule
Te kwè se frè m nou ye
Te kwè nou tout se Ayisyen.

Trantan anprizone

Trantan anprizone,
Abraram di sètase
Frè m yo, pa dekouraje
Lè ou sonnen
Pou kase chenn sa yo ki te mare
Ou tout kote
Konbyen ke ou soufri!
Konbyen ke ou lite!
Pa dezespere!
Lè delivrans lan sonnen,
Priyè ou ekzose:
Soti nan yon kacho
Byen cho.

Zwazo ak prentan

Bon zwazo m nan, m santi
Ou kòmanse respire lè yon prentan
Oumenm ki esperyanse moman nwa
Ou pa lwen sezon sa a
Ke ou reve toutan
Bon zwazo prefere m nan!
Talè wap jwenn libète ou
Oumenm kap vole sou latè
Pou pote yon branch ramo
Bay frè ou yo
Ou pa bezwen pè bonm
Kap tonbe
Ni loray kap gwonde
Fèmen nan yon kalòj pa chasè yo
Mwen konprann doulè ou
Talè ou pral libere
Pou vole
kote ou vle.

Yon temwen

Li mache tout kote
Pou al wè bagay yo pi lwen
Li mache tout kote
Pou al wè bagay yo pi pre.
Li di sa l tande
Li di sa l panse
Li vle vin yon bon temwen
Temwen aksidan
Ke l viv,
Temwen aksidan
Kounyeya.
Ou se temwen tou
Kote ou ye a
Eseye sonje
Eseye eklèsi
Sa ka chanje lavni.

A Haitian Creole - English Glossary

a : to; at; with. 2. marker. 3. determiner
abitwe v.tr. to accustom, to make familiar, to get used to (sth.) var: abitye.
Abraram : Abraham
achte v.tr. to buy, to purchase
adoktif : adopted. var: adoptif
adopte v.tr. to adopt. var: adokte
Afrik : Africa
aji v.tr. to act
ak : with. 2. and
akonpli v.tr./int. to accomplish, to achieve. 2. to live together (as man and wife, lovers)
aksidan: accident
aktivite: activity
ala traka! : what a pain!
al, ale v.int. to go
alfabè: alphabet
aletranje : abroad
Amerik: America
Amerikdinò: North America
Amerikdisid: South America
amou: love
an: the (def. art). 2. in
an menm tan: at the same time
anba: under
anbete: v.tr. to annoy, to tease
andòmi: v.tr. to anesthetize, to put to sleep
andwa: place
ane: year
anestezi v.tr/n. to anesthetize. 2. anesthesia
animo: animal
anivèsè: anniversary
ankò: again
anlè: upstairs, in the air; up
anmwe!: help!
ann: let, let's
annik: just; only
anpil: many
anprizone v.tr. to imprison, to jail, to put s.o in jail
anrichi v.tr. to enrich, to become richer
ansanm: together
ant: between
antouraj: surrounding, environment
antoure v.tr. to encircle, to surround
anvan, avan: before
anvi v.tr/n. to feel like, to want; to desire. 2. birth mark.
ap: progressive marker in Haitian Creole. Creole
aprann: v.tr. to learn. 2. to find out
apre: after
apresye v.tr. to

appreciate; to admire (s.o)
avadra: vagabond
avè, avèk: with
avè m: with me
Ayisyen: Haitian
Ayiti: Haiti
Azi: Asia

B

ba l: give him, her
babay : good bye
badnen: v.int to play with (s.o, sth.)
bagay: thing, stuff
bal: bullet. 2. ball (dance)
ban m: give me
batay v.tr/n. to fight. 2. fight
bato : boat
bay v.tr. to give
bebe: baby
beke v.tr. to peck (bird). 2. to snap at, to snub (s.o)
bèl: beautiful
bèl chan: nice song
bèl tilititi: a way of speaking French to fool s.o
benyen v.tr. to bathe, to take a shower. 2. a type of fritter
bezwen v.tr/n. to need. 2. need
bibon: bottle (for babies)
Bisantnè : a place in Port-au-Prince
bisuit: bread
biwo: desk. 2. office
blayi v.tr/n. to spread out (clothes). 2. to knock (s.o) down. 3. to lie down. 4. pile of stone used for bleaching clothes.
bliye v.tr. to forget
blòf: bluff
bloke v.tr. to block (off)
bo v.tr. to kiss
bò: side. 2. on the side of, by.
bon: good
bòn chans! : good luck!
Bondye: God
bonm: bomb
boude v.int. to pout
bouje v.int. to budge, to move
boule v.tr/int. to burn. 2. to burn down (house)
bourik: donkey
boutèy: bottle
branch: branch
brasa-wouj: bandits who burned the St. John Bosco Church in Port-au-Prince on September 11, 1988. They have also killed many people in the church
bravo! : cheer. bravo! well done!
briye v.int. to shine, to glitter. 2. to exceed (in a subject)
briz: breeze
bwa : wood

bwè v.tr. to drink
bwode v.tr. to embroider
bwòdè: sharp; cocky
bwote v.tr/int. to move, to transport. 2. to move out. 3. to carry
byen: well
byen lwen: far away, very far
byen senp: very simple
byenke: although

CH

chache v.tr. to look for. var: chache
chaje v.tr. to load
chak: every, each
chak fwa: every time, each time
chak koukouy: each lightning bug
Chalmayperal: Haitian hero
chanpyon: champion
chans: luck
chante v.tr/n. to sing. 2. song. 3. to talk nonsense
chapo: hat
chasè: hunter
chat: cat
chay: load
chèche v.tr. to look for (s.o, sth.); to seek; to search. var: chache
chèfseksyon: county cheriff
chemen: road, way
chemen koupe: short cut
chen: dog
chèn: chain
cheri : darling
chimen: road, way
Chinwa: Chinese
chita v.int. to sit down
cho: hot; to be hot
chwa: choice
chwal, cheval: horse

D

damou v.int. to love (each other); to be in love
dan: tooth, teeth
dans: dance
dat: date
de: two
de rant dlo nan je: with tears
de tout fason: anyway, anyhow; in any case
defini v.tr. to define
dekouraje v.tr. to discourage; to be discouraged (att.)
delibere: to free, to liberate (s.o); to feel free
delivre v.tr/int. to give birth. to deliver. 3. to rescue
demokrasi: democracy
dènye: last

dènye fwa: last time
depase v.tr.

to exceed, to go beyond
deplase v.tr. to move, to budge. 2. to leave, to go out. 3. to take off. 4. to change the place of sth.. 5. to get moving. 6. move, moving
Desalin: Haitian hero
desann v.tr/int. to go down; to descend, to get down. 2. to lower. 3. to overflow. 4. to lodge, to stay (at). 5. to remove (from fire). 6. to lose weight. 7. to get off a vehicle
desanzan: two hundred years
detui v.tr. to destroy. var: detwi
devan: in front of
dèyè: behind
dezespere: v.tr. to lose hope, to despair
dezyèm: second
di v.tr. to say. 2. to state, to declare, to affirm. 3. hard (att.)
diferan: different
difikilte: difficulty
diktatè: dictator
diskou: speech
diskou blòf: fake speech
disparèt v.int. to disappear, to vanish
dispoze v.tr/int. to decide, to decide about (sth.). 2. to be about to do sth.
dlo: water
dlo nan je: with tears
do: back
dòmi v.int. to sleep
doulè: pain
dwe v.tr. to owe. 2. to have to; must, should
dwèt: finger

E

ede v.tr. to help
egare: dumb, dummy
egzistans: existence
egziste v.int. to exist. var: ekziste
eklè : lighting
eklèsi v.tr. to clarify
eko: echo
ekzamen: exam
ekziste: v.tr. to exist. var: egziste
elatriye: and so on..., etc...
elèv: student, pupil
enbesil: dummy
endepandans: independence
endispansab: indispensible
ènmi: enemy
enpav: loafer
enpòtan: important
ensiswatil: amen
entansyon: intention
epi: than, and, and then
epoutan : however
ere: happy
eseye v.tr. to try

2. to try on, to try (clothes). 3. to test
èske: word used in asking questions
esperyans: experience
esperyanse v.tr. to experience (sth.), to go through
espès: species
esplike v.tr. to explain
esplwate v.tr. to exploit
esprime v.tr. to express (oneself)
esprime ou!: express yourself!. 2. speak French!
espwa: hope
eta: state. 2. situation
etabliv.tr/int. to establish. 2. to live together (as husband and wife, lovers)
etan: being
ete: Summer
etidye: v.tr. to study. 2. to reflect on
etranje: stranger
Ewòp: Europe

F

fabrike: to make
fache: v.int. to pout. 2. to be mad (att.)
fanm vanyan: brave woman
fasil: easy
fason: way, manner
fatige v.tr. to tire s.o. 2. to be tired (att.)
fè v.tr/n. to do, to make. 2. iron
fè kado: to give away
fèmen v.tr. to close. 2. to block
fen: end (of). 2. thin
fèt: party
fete v.tr. to celebrate
fevriye: February
fèy: leaf. 2. page (of a book)
fin tounen: almost become
fini v.tr. to finish
fò n: we have to, we must, we should
fòk: it must
fòk sa fini!: it must be ended
fòm: form
forè: forest
fòs: force, strength
Franklin Park: a park in Boston
frape v.tr. to knock (on a door). 2. to hit, to bump, to strike
frè: brother. 2.expenses
Freiburg: a city in Germany
fwa: time. 2. liver
fyè: proud; to be proud (att.)
fyète: pride

G

gade v.tr. to look, to take a look (at s.o, sth.). 2. to watch.

3. to raise (cattle)
galonnen v.tr. to promote (mil.); to decorate (mil.)
galope v.tr/int. to gallop. 2. to rush (to do sth.)
gason: man
gason kanson: brave man
gate v.tr. to spoil; spoiled (att.)
gaye v.tr/int. to spread out. 2. to scatter. 3. to muss (hair)
gen, genyen v.tr. to have; to possess, to own. 2. to win (competition, game)
Getè: Goethe (German writer)
Goltenbè: character representing the bourgeois in Haiti
goumen v.tr/int. to fight
gran: old. 2. large, big
grave v.tr. to engrave
grenn : single unit. 2. testicles. 3. pill. 4. seed
grenn je: eye, one eye
grès : grease
Gwanntanamo: Guantanamo
gwonde v.int. to roar. 2. to growl

I

Ide: idea
imajinasyon: imagination
ini v.int. to unite
initil: useless
inosan: innocent person
inoubliyab: unforgettable
isit : here
Istwa Dayiti: History of Haiti
itilite: use, utility
iwonikman: ironically
iwonize: to speak ironically (of s.o)

J

jan: type; the way (sth. is)
janm: leg. 2. never
janvye: January
je: eye
je pete: blind
jèbè: gerber (baby food)
jen: June
jennen v.tr. to corner. 2. to embarrass, to encumber. 3. to hamper, to burden (oneself). 4. to be uncomfortable, to be ill at ease. 5. *jennen*: narrow (att.)
jete v.tr. to throw away. 2. to bud (plant). 3. to overthrow (a government). 4. to flip (s.o) over
jij: judge
jije v.tr. to judge; to bring s.o to trial
jimnastik: gymnastic
jis: just. 2. narrow (att.)
jiskaske: until
jodlya : today

jou : day
jwe v.int. to play. 2. to joke, to kid
jwenn v.tr. to find. 2. to meet
jwèt: game
jwèt mele: serious game
Jwif: Jewish.

K

ka: can, to be able (to). 2. case. 3. quart
kache v.tr/int. to hide (sth.); to conceal. 2. to hide (oneself)
kacho: jail
kado: gift
kalalou: okra
kalbas: gourd, calabash
kalòj : cage (for bird)
kanpe vtr/int/n. to stand (sth.). 2. to stand up
kanson: pants, trousers
kap (ki ap): who is
Kapwalamò: a Haitian hero
karese v.tr. to caress. 2. to pat
kase v.tr/int. to break. 2. to slim down. 3. to break (bill). 4. to turn. 5. to harvest corn
kat: four
katrevensis: eighty six
kay: house
ke: that. 2. tail
kè: heart
kè kase: fear, with fear
kèk : some
kèlkeswa: whatever, whoever
kenbe v.tr/int. to catch. 2. to hold. 3 to hold (contain). 4. to hold on. 5. to capture. 6 to surprise (s.o doing sth.). 7. to endure
ki: who, that, which
kijan: how
kikote: where
kilè: when
kilti: culture
kirye: curious; to be curious (att.)
kisa: what
kite v.tr/int. to leave. 2. to break (love relationship). 3. to break from a habit. 4. to give up. 5. to abandon
kiyè: spoon
klere v.tr/int. to shine. 2. to light (up). 3. to polish
klète v.tr. to lock
klòch: bell
kò: body
kòk (zwazo): rooster. kòk kalite: fighting cock. kòk: coconut. kòk: man's sexual organ
kòm: as
kòmanse v.tr. to start, to begin
kominike v.tr/n. to

communicate, to talk, to speak. 2. *kominike* n. : official statement
kòmsi: as if
konbyen: how many, how much
kondane: v.tr. to condemn
konekte v.tr. to connect
konesans: knowledge
Konjige v.tr. to conjugate
konnen v.tr. to know (s.o, sth.)
konplètman: completely
konpòtman: behavior
konprann v.tr. to understand. 2. to believe
konsa: like this, like that
konsekan: important
konsidere v.tr. to consider, to regard
konstitisyon: constitution
kontan: happy; to be happy (att.)
kontinan: continent
kontinye: v.tr. to continue, to go on
kontre: v.tr. to meet, to encounter
konvèti v.tr/int. to convert. 2. to be converted to (religion)
kote: place, location. 2. where
koukouy : lightning bug
koule v.tr/int. to flow. 2. to leak. 3. to sink (boat). 4. to flank (exam). 5. to dive
kounyeya: now, right now
koupe v.tr/int. to cut. 2. to make love (to), to have sexual relations (with). 3. making love. 4. to be sharp (att.). 5. to interrupt, to cut off. 6. to dilute, to cut. 7. to cut (cards game)
koupe swaf: to quench thirst
kouri v.int. to run. 2. to rush, to hurry. 3. to drive fast, to speed. 4. to flow
kout chapo: salute, greeting; thanks
kout ri: laugh
kout san : anger; stroke
kouto: knife
koze v.tr/n. to chat, to talk. 2. chat, talk
kras: filth. 2. stingy
kraze-brize : to commit crimes; to do evil
kretyen: christian
kretyen vivan: human being, person, people
kreye v.tr. to create; to invent
kreyòl: Creole, Haitian Creole
kri: cry

Kristòf: Henri Christophe (Haitian king) and hero
kwa: cross
kwe kwe! (ono)

def. art. : the
la pou toutan: for ever
labouyi: porridge
lachanm: the senate
laflmen: smoke, smoking
lage v.tr. to untie. 2. to let go, to liberate, to free. 3. to drop. 4. to be over, to finish. 5. to loaf
lajwa: joyce
lakay: at home
lakonstitisyon: the constitution
lanati: nature
lang: language
lanmou: love
lanouriti: food
lapenn: pain
lapli: rain
larivyè, rivyè: river
las: lace (of cards). 2. asthma
latè: earth
lavalas: flood, flooding. 2. Operasyon Lavalas: political movement led by president Jean-Bertrand Aristide during his presidential campaign in 1990. Politically speaking, the term *lavalas* also refers to "majority and hope for the majority". vòt *lavalas*: majority vote. gouvènman *lavalas*: Jean-Bertrand Aristide's Administration; government of the people, popular government. «yon sèl nou fèb, ansanm nou fò, ansanm nou se lavalas» (phrase used by president Jean-Bertrand Aristide in closing a speech)
lavi: life
lavni: future, the future
lè: air. 2. when
legliz: church
Legliz Senjanbosko: St. John Bosco Church (Eglise St. Jean Bosco)
lekòl: school
lemonn: the world
leson: lesson
lespwa: hope
lèt: milk. 2. letter
lèt bouyi: boiled milk
leve v.tr/int. to get up. 2. to stand up, to rise. 3. to raise. 4. to lift, to pick (up). 5. to bring up (child). 6. to raise from death
leve-kanpe v.int. to stand up
li: v.tr. to read. 2. pronoun: he, she, it
li jou: it's dawn
lib: free; to be free (att.)
libere: to liberate, to free
libète: liberty
linivè: the universe
listwa: history
lit la: the struggle
lite v.int.

to fight. 2. to persevere. 3. to struggle
liv: book. 2. pound
lo: pile
lo E-A: O.A.S (Organization of American States)
lo N-I: U.N (United Nations)
lonbrik: umbilical cord. 2. belly button
lontan: in the past
loray: thunder
lòt: other, others
lòt kote: other places
lòt bò dlo : abroad
lou: heavy
lougawou : werewolf
lwen: far

M

mache v.tr/int. to chew. 2. to walk. 3. to work (mec.). 4. to succeed, to work. 5. to stroll. 6. market place. 7. noise (group of people talking loudly)
mache tèt anlè: to walk with pride
madan Jil: nonsense
madichonnen v.tr. to curse
madigra: person who disguised for the Mardi gras event. 2. ugly person who makes faces
magouyè: one who would do anything wrong to survive
makak: monkey
mal: evil. 2. bad. 3. wrong doing. 4. male. 5. trunk
malfini: hawk
malgre: although
malkalkile v.tr. to miscalculate
malonnèt: unkind. 2. rudness. 3. dishonest
maltrete v.tr. to mistreat
malveyan: malevolent
manje v.tr/n. to eat. 2. food
manman: mother
mare v.tr. to tie
maske v.tr. to wear a mask
maten: morning
mawon v.int. to evade. 2. dark-brown (color)
medite v.tr. to meditate
mèkredi: Wednesday
mele v.tr/int. to mix, to blend. 2. to interfere, to implicate, to be involved. 3. to tangle. 4. to associate (with)
memwa: memory
men: hand. 2. but

meprize v.tr. to despise, to scorn; to look down on s.o
merite v.tr. to deserve, to merit. 2. to be worth. 3. to need, to require
met tèt ansanm: to work

together
metis: mixed blood
meyè: best, the best
militè: military man, service man
minè: minor
minit: minute
mo: word
mòde v.tr. to bite
moke v.tr. to mock, to make fun of
moman: moment
moman nwa: bad times
monn: world
monn lan: the world
monte v.tr/int. to put sth. up, to assemble. 2. to go up. 3. to raise (price). 4. to climb, to climb on. 5. to endow with magical power. 6. to board, to get on (vehicle)
monte-desann : to go back and forth
montre m pito : show me instead
moun : people
moun de byen: good person, good people
moun konsekan: important person, important people
mouri v.int. to die. 2. to die out, to stop (engine)
mouton : sheep
move v.int. to pout. 2. bad. 3. to get mad, angry (att.)
mwa : month
mwen : I; me

N

nan : in. 2. def. art. : the
nan fon kè m : deep in my heart
nan vant toujou : not born yet
nap (nou ap) : we are
nas : fish trap
natirèl : natural
nèf : new. 2. nine
nèg : man. 2. negro
nègès : black woman
neglije v.tr. to neglect. 2. to be neglectful of sth. (att.)
nèj : snow
nenpòt : any
nesans : birth
netwaye v.tr. to clean
nich : nest
non sèlmann : not only
nostalji : home sick
nou : we; us
nouriti : food
nouvo : new
nwa : black
nwè : dark
Nwèl : Christmas
nwi v.tr. to bother. var: nui

O

obsève v.tr. to observe

: none
okenn: none
onondipè : in the name of the Father
onz : eleven
opresè : opressor
optimis : optimist
oseyan : ocean
otobis : bus
otorite : authority
ou : you
oubyen : or

P

pa : do not, don't
pafwa ; sometimes
pak : park
pale v.int/n. to talk. 2. talk
palpite v.int. to beat (heart)
panse v.int/n. to think, to meditate. 2. thought, thinking
pantan v.int. to give a sudden movement, to startle
panzou pouvwa : to seize power; coup
panzouyis: coup leaders
pap will not, won't. 2. pope
papye : paper
paradi : paradise
paralize v.tr. to paralize; to become paralyzed (att.)
Parque Del Retiro : a park in Madrid
pase v.tr. to hand (sth. to s.o). 2. to stop by. 3. to iron. 4. to go through. 5. to pass (med.). 6. to experience. 7. to sieve, to sift. 8. to purge (med.). 9. to show (movie). 10. to happen. 11. to spend time
paske : because
paspò : passport
pasyans : patience
pat : did not, didn't. 2. dough
pataje v.tr. to share
pati v.tr/int./n. to escape. 2. to take off, to leave. 3. to fly, to take off. 4. part (a part of). 5. political party. 6. to depart. 7. to escape
patikilye : particular
patriyòt : patriot
pawòl : word
pè : to be afraid of (att.). 2. priest
peche v.tr. to fish. 2. to make a sin
pechè : fisherman. 2. sinner
pèmèt v.tr. to allow, to let. 2. to dare
pentad : guinea fowl
pèp : people
pèp souvren : brave people
pepinyè : nursery (plant)
peri v.int. to perish
petèt : maybe
peyi : country
peyizan : peasant
pi devan :

further down
pi lwen : farer
pi pre : closer
pikan : thorn
piti : small
pitit : child
pitit Bondye : God's child
plan : plan. 2. seed
plante v.tr. to plant
plen : to fill up; filled up (att.)
plen kalbas : to fill a gourd, calabash with water
plezi : pleasure; fun
plis : more
poko : not ye
politik : politics
pon : bridge
ponyade v.tr. to stab
pote v.tr. to carry; to bring
pòtre : picture
pou : for; so that, in order to. 2. lice. 4. for (possession)
pou kò m : by my self
pou yon lòt : for another
poukisa : why
pouse v.tr/n. to push; to shove back. 2. to provoke. 3. spell (sth. that pushes s.o to do sth. wrong)
pouse pou pi devan : to forward
poutan : however
poutèt sa : for this reason
pouvwa : power
poze v.tr/int. to alight (bird). 2. to place. 3. to settle (liquid)
poze kesyon : to ask question
pral : going to
pran : to take. 2. to make love (to). 3. to catch. 4. to capture
pran sant : to smell
pre : near, close to
prè : near, close to
prefere : to prefer
premye : first
prens : prince
prensès : princess
prentan : Spring
prepare v.tr/int. to prepare. 2. to get ready
prèske : almost
prestij : pride
privye : fish net
priye v.tr/int. to pray. to request, to ask
pwatann : green beans
pwoblèm : problem
pwomès : promise

pwonpe v.int. to jump
pwòp : clean
pwòpte v.tr/n. to clean (up). 2. cleaning, cleanliness
pwoteje v.tr. to protect
pye : foot, feet
pyè : rock
pyebwa : tree

to pull. 2. to massage. 3. to hobble. 4. shrunken, drawn (face)
ramo : bough. dimanch *ramo* : Palm Sunday
randevou : appointment
ranje v.tr/n. to fix. 2. repair
rapid : faast
rapò : report
rasi : stale (of bread). 2. underdeveloped child
ravaje v.tr. to ravage. 2. to loot, to steal
rebati v.tr. to rebuild
redui v.tr. to reduce
reekri v.tr. to rewrite
refij : refuge, shelter
reflechi v.int. to think, to reflect; to ponder
refleksyon : reflection
rejwi v.int. to rejoice, to cheer; to be delighted (att.)
reken : shark
rekolonize v.tr. to colonize again
rekonstriksyon : reconstruction
rele v.tr. to call; to be name. 2. to yell. 3. to cry
renmen v.tr. to like, to love
repons : answer
repran v.tr. to retake, to take again, to take back
respekte v.tr. to respect
respire v.tr. to breathe
responsab : to be responsible (att.)
rete v.tr/int. to live. 2. to remain. 3. to stop
retounen v.int. to return
rèv : dream
reve v.tr. to dream
revè : reverse; other side
reveye v.tr/int. to wake up
reyalize v.tr. to realize. 2. to carry out, to accomplish
reyinyon : meeting
rezève v.tr. to reserve
rezon : reason
rezone v.int. to reason
ri v.tr/n. to laugh. 2. street
rich : rich; to be rich (att.)
rigòl dlo : tears
rive v.int. to arrive, to get to a place. 2. to reach (touch). 3. to happen

S

sa : what
sa a : this, that
Salamanca : a city in Spain
san blood. 2. one hundred
sankatrevensis : one hundred eighty six
sanmanman : bastard; criminal
sant : smell. 2. center
santi v.tr. to smell. 2. to feel
santiman : feeling

se and **ye** are equivalent to the verb to be in English; however, it is frequently a *copula zero*, which is to say, it is omitted and understood in context. In many case, it is substituted by an *attributive*. ***Se*** is used with *religion, nationality, profession, questions of information* (in answering questions related to these category of words). ***Ye*** is used with questions related to *physical state, description, location and possession*.

se jis : it's just

sèjoush : nowadays

sèk : dry

seksyon : section

sèl : only.. 2. salt

selebre v.tr. to celebrate

sèlman : only

selon : according to

sèmante : to swear. 2. to pledge fidelity

senp : simple

Sentaniz : character representing the people

septanm : September

sèt : seven

sètase : that's enough

sevre : v.tr. to wean, to stop nursing a young child

sèz desanm December sixteen

sezon : season

sezi v.tr/int. to grasp, to seize. 2. to startle. 3. to be shocked

Shekspi : Shakespeare

si m te, m ta... : if I were, I would

sida : AIDS

simante v.tr. to cement. 2. to consolidate

simen v.tr. to sew (seeds)

sipriz : surprise

sispann v.tr/int. to stop (doing sth.), to quit

sitiyasyon : situation

sivoke v.tr. to choke, to suffocate

solèy : sun

solisyone v.tr. to solve, to resolve

sonje v.int. to remember, to recall, to remind

sonnen v.tr/int. to ring. 2. to buzz (ears). 3. to honk (at)

sosyete : society

sot tonbe : to fall down

soti v.tr. to go out. 2. to come out. 3. to get out. 4. to win (lottery). 5. to become

sou : on. 2. to be drunk (att.)

sou latè : on earth

soufle v.tr/int. to blow. 2. to whistle

soufri v.int. to suffer

2. to endure
soupi : sight
soupe v.tr/n. to have supper, to eat supper. 2. supper
sous : spring (water)
souse v.tr. to suck. 2. to well up
souvni : souvenir
souwè : wish
swaf : thirst
swasantuit : sixty eight
swete v.tr. to wish; to hope
syèk : century
syèl : heaven. 2. sky

T

ta : would
talè : right away; in a moment
tan : weather; temperature
tann v.tr. to wait (for). 2. to spread (clothes)
tanbou : drum
tande v.tr/n. to hear, to listen (to). 2. to obey. 3. ear drum
tandiske : whereas, while
tankou : as, like
tann nas : to set a fish trap
tanporè : temporary
te : marker in Haitian Creole. 2. tea
te plen : was crowded; was filled up; there were many
temwen : eyewitness
tèrès : earthly
tèt : head
tèt chaje : problem, trouble

tete v.tr/n. to suck. 2. breast
ti : small
ti bebe : baby
tilititi : a way of speaking French to fool s.o
timoun : child, children
timoun piti : small children, children
tire v.tr. to shoot (weapon). 2. to throw (rock). 3. to milk (cow). 4. to draw (lottery). 5. to pull
tonbe v.int. to fall (down). 2. to start doing sth.
tonbe-leve : may be used figuratively meaning on and off
tonton : uncle
Tonton Nwèl : Santa Claus
Tormes : a river in Salamanca, Spain
tou nèf : new
toufe v.tr. to choke, to strangle, to suffocate. 2. to braise
toujou : always
toulede : both
touman : restlessness
tounen v.int. to return, to come back. 2. to turn. 3. to turn around. 4. to sour (milk). 5. to change into
toupatou : everywhere

Tousen (Toussaint Louverture) : Haitian hero
tout : all, every
tout bon vre : for good, for sure
tout kote : everywhere
tout moun : everybody, everyone
toutan : all the time, every time
touye v.tr. to kill, to assassinate. 2. to turn off (light)
traka : trouble, problem
tranble v.int. to shake, to tremble
tranntwazan : thirty three years
tanpri : please
trantan : thirty years
trase v.tr. to draw, to sketch
travay v.tr/int/n. to work. 2. work, job. 3. to function
tris : sad; to be sad (att.)
tristès : sadness
triyang : triangle
twa : three
twal : cloth

V

tyèmondis : third world
va : future marker in Haitian Creole
vakagon : vagabond
vakans : vacation
van : wind
vanse v.int/adv. to go forward. 2. to approach, to advance. 3. almost
vant : belly; stomach
vanyan : brave
vapè : vapor
vèb : verb
ventyèm : twentieth
veye v.tr/n. to watch, to keep an eye on. 2. wake
vid : empty
viktim : victim
viktwa : victory
vil : town, city
vitamin : vitamin
viv v.int/n. to live, to survive. 2. food, starchy food

vle v.tr. to want, to like. 2. to desire
vole v.int. to fly, to take off. 2. to jump
vòlè v.tr/n. to steal. 2. thief
Vòltè (Voltaire) : French writer
voye yon kout chapo (pou) : to salute, to greet. 2. to thank
vre : true
vrè : true. 2. real
vwayaj : trip; travelling
vwayaje v.tr. to
vwayajè : traveller

vwayajè : traveller
vye : old

W

wa : king. 2. ou va
wap (ou ap) : you are
wè v.tr. to see. 2. to notice
wi : yes
womantik : romantic
women : roman; Roman
wouj : red
woule v.tr. to grind. 2. to fool, to deceive. 3. to roll (up)
wout : road, way

Y

yap (yo ap) : they are
ye (see «se»)
yo : they; them
yon : a (ind.art. in Haitian Creole)
yon fwa ankò : once again
yon istwa byen long : a long history
yon sèl : one; only one
yon ti bo : a little kiss
youn : one

Z

zaboka : avocado
zanmi : friend, friends
zansèt : ancestors
zetwal : star
zo : bone
zonbifye v.tr. to zombify
zongle v.tr. to pinch
zòt : others
zouti : tool
zwazo : bird

Abbreviations:

att. : attributive
def.art: definite article
mil. : military term
s.o : someone
sth. : something
v.int. : intransitive verb
v.int/adv. intransitive verb and adverb
v.int/n. : intransitive verb and noun
v.tr. : transitive verb
v.tr/int. transitive and intransitive verb
v.tr/int/n. : transitive, intransitive verb and noun
v.tr/n. : transitive verb and noun
var: variant, dialectal variation

Poetry in Haitian Creole

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