

Max G. Beauvoir's (2008) *Le Grand Recueil Sacré ou Répertoire des Chansons du Vodou Haïtien* 'The Great Sacred Collection or Repertoire of Haitian Vodou Songs'

This file provides the English translation of songs 00001-00250, pages 55-179

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-00001-

Hey Abako Abako,
I say hey, hey Abako is in the house.
Oh Abako we'll circle the house!
Hey Abako hey Abako,
I say hey, hey Abako is in my house.
We'll circle the house, oh Abako!

-00002-

Peasants **wake up**, your coffee seeds **fell**!
Your coffee seeds **fell**, your cocoa did not rise!
Peasants **hurry up**, your coffee seeds **fell** down!
Your coffee seeds fell down, your cocoa did not rise!

-0003-

Oh my peasants get up and **saddle your horse**!
Oh my peasants get up and **saddle** the day has arrived!
Oh my peasants get up and **saddle your horse**!
Oh my peasants get up and **saddle**, the day has arrived!
Oh my peasants get up and master them,
Oh my peasants get up and master the day has arrived!

-00004-

Oh oh oh peasants who plant corn, plant corn!
Oh oh oh peasants who plant mangos, plant mangos!
Oh oh oh peasants who plant melons, plant melons!
Oh oh Whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa!

-00005-

Abraham, Abraham is going,
Adonis left us here, he went!
Abraham, Abraham is going,
Adonis left us here, he went!
The day he leaves, **we all can be independent.**

Abraham is going, the magic,
Abraham, Abraham is going,
Adonis left us here, he went.
What a pity **we will work tirelessly**, the magic!
Abraham, Abraham is going.
Adonis left us here, he went!
The day he leaves, we all can be independent.
Abraham is going!
Ougan, we all can be independent.
Abraham is going!
Manbo, we all can be independent.
Abraham is going!
You know, we all can be independent.
Abraham is going!

-00006-

Abriman **Badè**
That's not what you told me!
You told me that we'll see this tonight!
We'd see that, we'd see that,
Oh my, we'd see that tonight, the **Guard!**

-00007-

**Hey Achade when we are telling them,
we'll tell them you're here.**
**Hey Achade, when we are telling them,
we'll tell them you're here.**
Hey **our swords crossed, our swords crossed!**
Hey **our swords crossed, our swords crossed!**
When we are telling them, Achade,
Don't say my name please.
Achade, **when we are telling them**
Hey Nago men, we are here!
Achade, **when we are telling them!**
Hey Nago men, we are here!
We are asogwe strong my oungan
When we are telling them!
Hey we'll tell them we're here!
We are asogwe stong my oungan
**When we are telling them,
Hey we will tell them we're here.**
Achade Man Bòkò gwegi malò Olichagbadja
We are the community of believers, Nago men of Oyo.
Hey when we are telling them! Nago men, you'll tell them we're here!

When we are telling them!

We are **kaklin kakla Obatala mouwa...**

Achade, **when we are telling them**, hey Nago men we're here!

Hey **our swords crossed, our swords crossed!**

Hey **our swords crossed, our swords crossed!**

When we're telling them, Achade,

you'll tell them not say my name, please.

-00008-

Achade said this,

the country is **upside-down!**

Oh Achade said this,

the country is turned upside-down!

Oh Achade said this, oh who said this,

the country is **upside-down.**

-00009-

Achade, it was you who **brought**

me here, you did not tell me anything!

You did not tell me anything, Nago men!

You did not tell me anything, it's true!

Hey Ogou, it was you who brought me!

Oh Ogou, it was you who brought me!

Hey bókò Achade, Achade, you brought me here,

you did not tell me anything!

You did not tell me anything!

Nago men you did not tell me anything.

You did not tell me anything, Achade bókò.

You did not tell me anything, it's true!

Hey, it was you who brought me here.

Achade you brought me here!

Oh Ogou, it was you who brought me here.

Hey, Achade Bókò, it was you who brought me,

Achade you brought me here,

you did not tell me anything!

you did not tell me anything, Nago men,

you did not tell me anything,

You did not explain it to me, Nago men,

you did not tell me anything, it's true!

Oh Ogou, it was you who brought me here,

Oh Ogou Feray, it was you who brought me,

Achade, it was you who brought me,

But you did not tell me anything!

-00010-

Adelayi, start it off, start it off, Adelayi!

We're going to get in full swing.

Adelayi, **start it off, start it off, Adelayi!**

We're going to get in full swing.

Adelayi, **start it off, start it off, Adelayi!**

We're going to get in full swing.

-00011-

Adja Gawou, call Adja Gawou!

Adja Gawou, call Adja Gawou!

My straw bag is on my back,

don't let the dogs bite me.

Don't touch, don't touch,

don't touch the elder.

If you can, come touch, come touch!

Don't touch the elder,

If you can!

-00012-

Adja Wilimen is crying,

Adja Wilimen is crying,

Your mother warned you,

you did not listen to her.

Your father warned you,

you did not listen to him.

Adja Wilimen is crying.

-00013-

Adjasou Danmselele,

Adjasou **Yangòdò!**

Adjasou Danmselele,

Adjasou **Yangòdò!**

-00014-

Adjasou come see us,

Hey old manbo, old manbo!

Adjasou came to see me, old manbo,

Ewa old manbo, old manbo,

Ewa old manbo, old manbo!

Adjasou came to see me, old manbo!

Adjasou came to see me, old manbo,

Adjasou, Adjasou, Adjasou!

Adjasou, Adjasou, Adjasou came to see me,

Ewa old manbo, ewa old manbo!
Adjasou came to see me, old manbo!
Adjasou came to see me, old manbo,
Ewa old manbo knows about the affair here!
Adjasou came to see me,
Ewa old manbo, ewa old manbo!
Adjasou came to see me, old manbo,
Ewa old manbo knows the mystical language!

-00015-

God, what a pity my mother,
Where did you leave the corpse?
Hey, in the ravine.
Where did you leave the corpse?
Hey, in the ravine.
God, what a pity my mother,
Where did you leave the corpse?
Hey, in the ravine.
Don't climb the mountain with the sun,
Be careful not to let harm come to you!
Don't climb the mountain with the sun,
Be careful not to let harm come to you!

-00016-

Oh what a pity, manbo Satela!
What a pity, I'm going to **tie up** the doki,
I'm going.
Tchakou tchakou balmannan,
I will call my **Lwa** for them.
Tchakou tchakou balmannan,
Oh I will truly call my **Lwa** for them.
My house burned, I stay underneath.

-00017-

Hey Adjewou, I am calling **Adjehou**.
I can't find [see] him!
Hey **Adjehou**, I am calling **Adjehou**.
I can't see him!
Adjewou is in the ounfò.
Adjewou is in the ounfò here.
I am calling **Adjehou**.
Hey **Adjehou**, I am calling **Adjehou**.
I can't find him!

-00018-

Adoum Gidi Gidi,
Gidi Gidi watch out for thorns, watch out for bones!
Gidi Gidi watch out for thorns, watch out for bones!
Adoum gidi gidi,
Gidi Gidi watch out for thorns, watch out for bones!
Gidi Gidi watch out for misfortune, watch out for bones!

-00019-

Afi Yehwe, Afi Yehwe!
Afi Yehwe, Afi Yehwe!
We'll call Legba Nago Afi Yehwe, Obaba

-00020-

Afoutayi—Yi!
Bila Bila—Kongo!
When an ass is angry where does it sit—
The ground!
In Ginen, all donkeys climb trees!
Help it carry... What it wants!

-00021-

Chameleon¹ I am going to climb trees, yege!
Oh Chameleon, I am going to climb trees,
oh yege, that yege!
Oh yege, that yege!
Oh Chameleon, I am going to climb trees, yege!

-00022-

Chameleon climbs trees, he's gone!
Chameleon climbs trees, he's gone!
Oh Sesil, the house caught fire, he's gone!

-00023-

Agawou De
Oh what a shame, **she is** a woman!
Agawou De!
Oh what a shame, **she is** a woman!
If she wasn't a woman, Agawou,
She would've shot her cannons

¹ The word *aganman* 'chameleon' is etymologically from the Fongbe language of Benin (Dahomey). In Dahomian religion, the chameleon represents Mawou-Lisa 'God' (see Jil and Jil 2009).

in front of the Vodou sanctuary!

-00024-

Hey Agawou De, Agawou De, De miwa!
Hey Agawou De, Agawou De, De miwa!
I say De, Agawou De za De!
I say De, Agawou De,
Hey Agawou handsome man, miwa man!
Hey Agawou De, Agawou De, De miwa!
Hey Agawou De, Agawou De, De miwa!
I say De, Adawou De za De!
I say De, Adawou De,
Hey Agawou handsome man, miwa man!

-00025-

Oh Agawou who walks **Wanminan**!
Oh I call Agawou who walks **Wanminan**!
Oh hey **mean**² Agawou **Wèdo**!
Oh hey **mean** Agawou **Wèdo**!
Oh Agawou who walks **Wanminan**!

-00026-

Oh Agawou, we come from Anminan.
Hey Agawou, I come from Anminan.
Agawou Yemen, oh hey the pruning knife man!
Agawou Mede³, oh hey the pruning knife man!
Hey Agawou, I come from Anminan.

-00027-

Agawou saba yege, look at the misery, oh my!
Hey Agawou saba yege, look at the misery!
Look at the misery we're suffering, look at the misery of the day!
Hey Agawou **saba yege**, look at the misery!
Ago, **(k)pò lovigè**, we've seen enough!

-00028-

Agawou Te,
Hey general Agawou, oh hey Te Agawou Te e!
Agawou Te, my Lwa.
Agawou Te, **se e**, General Agawou I ask Te,

² Bètsansan literally means 'Beast without blood,' i.e. a beast of a spirit.

³ Notice the name *Mede* is also shared by *Azaka Mede*.

That's how it is.

-00029-

Agawou, Agawoule (g)Bosi Yanyan!
Agawou, if you're a good Oungan you'll treat the illness!
Agawou, Agawoule (g)Bosi Yanyan!
Agawou, if you're a good Oungan you'll treat the illness!

-00030-

Agawou, oh better that you fly,
Agawou better that you fly than let the Djab eat you!
Yes better that you fly, man, better that you fly!
Agawou better that you fly than let the Djab eat you!

-00031-

Agasou **Danmkelele**,
Oh my Danmkelele!
Agasou Danmkelele,
Oh my Danmkelele!
Agasou Danmkelele,
Oh my Danmkelele!

-00032-

Hey Agasou do lèlè, lèlè wonko!
Hey Agasou do lèlè, lèlè wonko!
I serve God with my faith,
So they can help me on a day I have an emergency!
Call the Spirits⁴ for me,
hey Lèlè wonko!

-00033-

Hey Agasou gweli
My **Silibo Vavou**!
I asked the Ounfò about Imamou wèlo!
My Agasou gweli and Silibo Vavou!
I asked the ounfò about Imamou wèlo!

-00034-

Hey Agasou miwa,
Pyè Danbala Wèdo does not care!
Hey Agasou miwa,

⁴ Notice the word *Mistè* for *Spirits*.

Pyè Danbala Wèdo does not care!
Pyè Danbala Wèdo does not care!
Let me go, my friend,
We've seen enough.

-00035-

Oh hey Agasou si Yemen!
Oh hey Agasou si Yemen!
After God in the sky,
We're vaporizing rum!
After God in the sky,
We're **miwaye!**

-00036-

Oh Agasou, I'm going to Ginen.
Agasou Yemem, I'm going to Ginen.
The sinners of the earth are not God.
Oh Agasou, I'm going to Ginen.
Oh Agasou, oh I'm going to Ginen.
The sinners of the earth are not God!

-00037-

Oh Agasou, hey **si Yèmen!**
Oh Saint Agasou, hey si Yèmen!
After God in the sky, oh hey **miwa!**
Hey, we'll shine, Saint Agasou, hey we'll miwa!
Hey we'll miwa, young handsome men,
Hey we'll miwa, it's true!
After God in the sky, we'll miwa, for the day!
Oh Agasou, hey si Yèmen!
Oh Agasou, hey si Yèmen!
After God in the sky, hey we'll miwa!

-00038-

Agasou Yèmen,
Lend me your pistol!
Agasou Yèmen, lend me your pistol!
I am already a man, I will not die without speaking!

-00039-

Agasou, we come from Ginen!
Agasou Yèmen we come from Ginen—
the sinners of the earth are not equivalent to God!

-00040-

Ago ago e, ago ago **Fla Vodoun**,
Hey Ougansi, Sobo's Vodou sanctuary ewa, ago, ago!
Oh my, ladies and gentlemen, I shout ago ago so we can see them!
Ago, ago e e, Ougansi, it's true!
Ago ago e, ago ago Fla Vodoun,
Ougansi e, Lamenfò ewa, ago, ago!

-00041-

Ago Lanmisèdo!
Ago Lanmisòdo, Danbala Lanmisèdo,
Danbala is not here, ago Lanmisèdo!
Ago Lanmisedo, Danbala Lanmisèdo!
Danbala is not here, ago Lanmisèdo!

-00042-

Hey Ago Chameleon Lisa⁵,
He is uprooted, man, we'll call the Lwa!
Hey Chameleon Lisa, hey ago Chameleon Lisa,
He is uprooted, man, we'll call the Lwa!
Hey Chameleon Lisa is uprooted, we'll call the Lwa!
He is uprooted, man, we'll call the Lwa!
Hey Ago Chameleon Lisa,
He is uprooted, man, we'll call the Lwa!
Hey Chameleon Lisa!

-00043-

Ago wilimen, men noufinide,
Men noukabade,
Toutou ounsi, manyan Vodou,
Song leader⁶, we are flag bearers,
Noufinide kowèzè, kowèzè la a.
Ago wilimen, men noukabade,
Men noufinide, men noukabade,
Toutou ounsi, manyan Vodou,
Song leader, we are flag bearers,
Men noufinide kowèzè, kowèzè la a.

-00044-

Ago, agosi, agola,

⁵ See song 21 and its notes for more information on *Aganman* (Chameleon). Note that the spirit *Lisa* is linked to the Fon conceptualization of God as *Mawou-Lisa*

⁶ The *Houndjènikon* is the song leader in Vodou.

we are going to trace the middle cross of the vèvè, hey ago hey!
Ago, agosi, agola,
we are going to trace the middle cross of the vèvè!
I am going to trace my vèvè!
I am going to trace my vèvè!
Ago, agosi, agola, we are going to trace the middle cross of the vèvè, hey ago hey!

-00045-

Hey Agwe we are here, master Awoyo!
Agwe, hey Agwe we are here, master Awoyo!
Master Agwe stays in the ocean, his cannon fires!
Master Agwe stays in the ocean, his cannon fires!
Hey Agwe we are here, Master Awoyo!

-00046-

Oh Agwe,
Agwe you cannot drive two women,
Oh you have to send one away!
The Agwetawoyo Kwala eel⁷, oh Agwe,
Agwe you cannot drive two women.
Oh you have to send one away!
On the sea, that's where Agwe lives.
On the island, that's where Agwe lives,
oh Agwe, Agwe you cannot drive two women. Oh you have to send one away, oh my!

-00047-

Agwe stays in the sea of the **walala wili!**
Oh walala wili, the walala wili,
Agwe stays on the island of the walala wili!
Agwe stays in the sea of the walala wili!

-00048-

Oh Agwe sign orders,
Oh on a day when I have an emergency
I'll call Agwe! Agwe Woyo, we aren't in a hurry,
Seashell of the ocean⁸, we aren't in a hurry here!
There's a hit behind,
Papa, we're ready to confront them!

-00049-

⁷ *Zangi* is the Haitian Creole term for 'eel.' As Agwe lives in the sea, the eel could be a symbol of Agwe.

⁸ As Agwe lives in the sea, the seashell is another symbol used to represent this spirit.

Agwe Woyo, it rained.
Oh the water descended, hey ago hey!
Oh I call Agwe!
It rained, oh the water descended.
We are going to see, Dosi, if we'll cross!
If we'll cross, Agwe Woyo, if we'll cross!
If we'll cross, Shell of the flood, if we'll cross!

-00050-

Agwe Woyo, I'm descending.
I'm descending near the sea.
I am going to search for my family!
Agwe Woyo, oh I'm descending.
I'm descending near the sea.
I am going to search for my parents!
Agwetawoyo, oh I'm descending.
Oh seashell of the sea I'm descending!
I'm descending near the sea, I am going to search for my parents!

-00051-

Oh Agwe Woyo, I am not in a hurry!
Nothing here surpasses God in the sky.
My eyes are here to watch them!
Oh Agwe Woyo, I'm not in a hurry!
Nothing here surpasses God in the sky.
My eyes are here, I'm watching them!
All who say good, my eyes are here, my eyes are here!
All who say bad here, my eyes are here, my eyes are here!
Oh Agwe Woyo, I am not in a hurry!
Nothing here surpasses God in the sky.
My eyes are here, I'm watching them!

-00052-

Agwe Woyo, I was in the sea here.
Agwe Woyo, I was near the island here.
Agwe Woyo, I was in the sea here.
Agwe Woyo, I was near the island here.

-00053-

Agwe, hey Agwe we are here, Dawomen⁹ men!
Agwe, hey Agwe we are here, Dawomen men!

⁹ Agwe is a spirit in the Dahomian Rada rite, hence this reference in the song.

Master Agwe stays in the ocean, his cannon fires!
Master Agwe stays in the ocean, his cannon fires!
Hey Agwe we are here, Dawomen men!

-00054-

Agwe stake the pole for me!
Stake the pole, Agwe Tawoyo!
Touch the pole for me here!
Agwe, Agwe, touch the pole for me!
Touch the pole for me.
Insert the pole for me!
Agwe, Agwe, touch the pole for me.
Agwetawoyo Kimba Alada, **Kadja Dosou**,
Miyanvalou Afrekete, you'll insert the pole for the Lwa!
Agwe, Agwe extend the pole for me!
Insert the pole, Agwe Tawoyo, we're navigating on the water!
Agwe Agwe, touch the pole for me!

-00055-

Hey Agwe, Vodou miwa.
Hey Agwetawoyo, Vodou miwa!
Agwe **Vodou miwa aze!**

-00056

Agwetawoyo sent for me,
I am going to see what the humans want from me.
The sinners of the earth are no good, they're bad!
The sinners of the earth are no good, they're bad!
The one hitting forgets, the one who bears the mark remembers!
I am going to see what the humans want from me.

-00057-

Agwetawoyo, I signed the order in the yard of the house!
When I'm passing by, hey I hear Agwe!
Oh Agwe Tawoyo signed the order,
As I was passing by, oh I called Agwe!
Agwe Tawoyo here, we aren't in a hurry.
Agwe Tawoyo, we aren't in a hurry here!
There's a blow from behind,
don't you see we're ready to confront them!

-00058-

Oh my Agwe Tawoyo, here's your sheep.
Oh my Agwe Tawoyo, here's your sheep.

Oh my, oh my, oh my, oh my!
Oh my, Agwe Tawoyo, here's your sheep.

-00059-

Akouti kouti e,
Akouti kouti Manbo dances!
Akouti kouti e, Akouti kouti Manbo dances!
Awanda kekete, awanda figure it out,
Kouti do kòwaniye,
Awanda wanda, wanda kelele!

-00060-

Go find him, bring him to me.
Go find him, bring him to me.
Go find him, bring him to me at the gathering.
Oh Man Simba, we have a job to do.

-00061-

Oh what a shame, he'll go!
Oh what a shame, he'll go!
He'll leave regret behind him.
Oh what a shame, he'll go!
Oh what a shame, he'll go!
He'll leave regret behind him.

-00062-

Oh what a shock to see that friends don't love friends!
Oh in Yogann families are no good.
Oh what a shock to see that families don't love families!
All the good I've done, they don't like me.
All the good that I did, they don't like me.
In Yogann, they touched magic,
God turned his back on them!

-00063-

Oh how I love Sineyis.
My mother **is** happy, my father is angry, oh how I love Sineyis!
Oh how I love my Sine.
My mother is happy, my father is angry, oh how I love Sineyis.
Oh how I love Sineyis—oh how I love Sineyis!
Good comarade friends, if you see Sineyis go by,
Give him a chair for me; I'm behind I'm coming, Charge!

-00064-

Imagine that I heard Dagwe is heating up the sun!
Imagine I hear Dagwe is heating up the sun!
Hey it's the snake Lwa!
I was passing by this basin,
Imagine that I hear **Dagwe!**
I was passing by this basin!
Imagine that I hear Dagwe is heating up the sun!
Hey it's the snake Lwa!

-00065-

Imagine I work,
They don't pay me.
Eskalye Boumba,
Oh the year is finished, hey what a pity!
Oh I work so hard, they don't pay me.
Oh **Eskalye Boumba**, the year is finished.
If it so happens, pay me in case the dew falls!

-00066-

What magic, hey what magic that's boiling, oh my!
Look at the magic, do you see the magic that's boiling!
Look at the magic that's boiling here; we aren't startled!
We aren't startled.
Look at the magic that's under the Kongo altar¹⁰, we aren't startled!

-00067-

Oh what magic that's boiling here, oh my!
Hey what a pity, look at the magic that's boiling here, oh my!
The magic is burning without fire, oh my!
Hey look at the magic, look at the magic!
Look at the magic that's truly boiling in the house!
Hey, oh my, look at the magic that's boiling, what a pity!
The magic is boiling without fire, oh my!

-00068-

Oh what magic that enters the house.
Oh what magic has arrived.
Hey imagine the magic that's boiling in the house!
Oh what magic that's boiling in the house!
My Gangan is annointed¹¹!

¹⁰ *Bila* is the Kongo term for an altar.

¹¹ Presumbaly *sogwe* here refers to *asogwe*, the highest rank or priesthood in the *Kanzo* initiatory tradition.

My Gangan is annointed!
My Gangan is annointed!
My Agangan is annointed!
Gangan Kalounga,
My Agangan is annointed here!

-00069-

Imagine the misfortune that befalls me!
Madame Beauvoir asked for me.
Look at the **misfortune** that befalls me.
Madame Beauvoir sent to search for me at my house.
Look at the misfortune that befalls me.
You see the misfortune that befalls me,
Madame asks for me.
Look at my misfortune.
Look at my misfortune.
Look at the Dan Petwo misfortune.
Look at my misfortune.
Do you see my misfortune?
Oh the gangan asks for me.
Look at my misfortune; do you see my **misfortune**?
Oh the gangan asks for me.
Do you see my misfortune; madame Beavoires asks me?
Madame Beavoir asks for Jètrid of Haiti.
She arrived here, you see my misfortune.
Madame asks for me, look at the misfortune that befalls me.

-00070-

Imagine how much they bad mouth Kouzen.
His only flaw, he's poor!
Imagine how much they bad mouth Kouzen; his only flaw, he's poor!
His only flaw, he's poor!
His only flaw, he's poor!
This peasant, he didn't buy it at all, God gave it to him, charge¹²!

-00071-

Oh what power Haitians have!
They took the ason of my Lwa, they threw it away!
Oh what power Haitians have!
They took the ason of my Lwa, they threw it away!
Oh what power Haitians have!

¹² Alaso is a military term meaning 'to charge.'

They took the ason of my Lwa, they threw it away!
God is good, the Saints are good, Marasa is good!
God is good, the Saints are good, Marasa is good!
Oh what power Haitians have!
They took the ason of my Lwa, they threw it away!

-00072-

What a beautiful woman Florida is,
I need a bottle of Florida¹³ in order to command!
What a beautiful woman Florida is,
Look how I need a bottle of Florida in order to command!
I say whoa it's Florida, I'm commanding, the Gad¹⁴!
I am Florida, I'm commanding!

-00073-

What a beautiful ceremony we're having, it's for the Lwa.
The family in the compound pours out water, blesses water.
The heirs, sing for me.
What a beautiful ceremony we're having, it's for the Lwa.
The family in the compound pours out water, blesses water.
The heirs, sing for me.
The day I fall, well, what will collect me?
The day I fall, what will collect me?
I am a Singer who comes from a Spanish country.
I don't know **how** to sing, sing for me!

-00074-

Alada e Miton Ve.
Alada e Miton Ve e, o Miton Ve!
Miton Ve, Danbala Wedo Miton Ve!
Miton Ve, Ayida Wedo Miton Ve!
Alada e Miton Ve

-00075-

Hey Alada kinmba Alada samalouko!
Samalouko, I don't eat cornmeal porridge.
They tell me to throw out the leaves!
Hey Alada kinmba Alada samalouko!
Samalouko, samalouko, Papa Peter, I don't eat cornmeal porridge.

¹³ *Dlo Florida* 'Florida water' is perfume that is sprinkled in Vodou ceremonies to heighten the connection with the spirits.

¹⁴ A *Gad* is a protective spirit.

They tell me to throw out the leaves!
Hey Alada kinmba Alada samalouko!
Samalouko, samalouko, Papa Peter, I don't eat cornmeal porridge.
They tell me to throw out the leaves!
Hey Alada kinmba Alada samalouko!

-00076-

Alada, oh Alada, I'm going to make a way.
What horse will I saddle?
Yes Alada, oh Alada I'm going to make a way.
What horse will I saddle?
I'm going to saddle soon, I'm going to saddle soon here,
If I don't die, Alada, one day they'll see me.

-00077-

Alakildino,
Saint James crosses **golimo**, he'll **soumaye**!
Alakildino, hey Saint James crosses **golimo**, he'll **soumaye**!
Hey he'll **soumaye**, he'll **soumaye**,
He'll **soumaye**, he'll **soumaye**.
Oh I am going to ask Sen James the Greater,
If I'll find a good tale before I leave.

-00078-

At my entrance, Saint James of Laplëndino is beautiful,
We're vaporizing rum, vaporizing rum for Sen Jak!
At my entrance, Saint James of Laplëndino is beautiful, we're vaporizing,
Hey Okaraye here,
Sen James asks for his settlement, we're vaporizing rum!

-00079-

Upon arriving, I am under the sacred bower.
There are gossipers talking above me!
Upon arriving, I am under the sacred bower,
Oh there are gossipers talking above me!
Oh do I know them, I don't respond to them!
Oh do I know them, I won't speak to them.
What do I care for them, so what?

-00080-

Alaso! The guy took on another personality.
I entered with my honor,
So I can leave here with my respect!

I entered with my honor,
So I can leave here with my respect!
I entered with my honor,
So I can leave here with my respect!
Charge ladies! The guy arrived.
Alaso! The man is split.
I entered with my honor,
So I can leave here with my respect!

-00081-
Hey Alegba Dan Petwo,
Open the cirle.
Hey open the cirle, open the cirle, open the cirle!
I'm going to open the circle, I'm going!
Hey Alegba Dan Petwo, open the circle.
Hey Alegba Dan Petwo, open the circle.

-00082-
Alegba limps,
Golimen itoto, soon we'll see them!
Alegba limps,
Golimen itoto, soon we'll see them!
Papa Legba limps,
Golimen itoto, those who search will find!

-00083-
Alegba is at the gate,
Those who don't yet know me,
wherever I go, I Touch¹⁵, I command.
Alegba is at the gate, those who don't yet know me,
wherever I go, I Touch, I command.
Alegba is at the gate, those who don't yet know me,
wherever I go, I Touch I command.

-00084-
Alegba you are the wind,
Push us away,
we are butterflies we'll bring them news!
Alegba Atibon, you are the wind, push us away,
we are butterflies, we'll bring them news!
Hey, all who say **good things about us**, our eyes are here!

¹⁵ Beauvoir write *Tate* with capital letters.

Hey all who say **bad things about us**, our eyes are here!
Alegba Atibon you are the wind, push us away,
We are butterflies, we'll bring them news!
Alegba Atibon you are the wind, push us away,
we are butterflies, we'll bring them news!

-00085-

Alegba Petwo Lwa of the house.
Papa Legba Dan petwo, Lwa of the house.
It didn't rain, oh the dirt is slippery, it didn't rain, the dirt is slippery here.
Alegba Petwo Lwa of the house, it's true.

-00086-

Alegba Sanyan, **what should I tell them?**
Alegba Sanyan, **what should I tell them?**
Today we are in trouble, **what should I tell them?**

-00087-

Alegba Sanyan, Sanyan,
you'll tell them I'm waiting for them!
Alegba Sanyan, Sanyan,
you'll tell them I'm waiting for them!
You'll tell them I'm waiting for them with cornmeal porridge and syrup.
With cornmeal porridge and syrup, cornmeal porridge and syrup!

-00088-

Alegba Sanyan, Sanyan, Alegba commands!
Legba commands, Legba Atibon,
Legba Katawoulo, Master of the Great Path,
Alegba you command my Lwa!
Alegba Sanyan Sanyan, Alegba commands!

-00089-

Aleksinò is an adult all over his body, **his Father is lost.**
Aleksinò is truly an adult,
His father is lost.
He'll **quit** power when he wants!
His father has lost his way.
Uncle Nò is truly an adult, **his Father is lost!**
Aleksinò is truly an adult, his Father is lost!
He'll **quit** power when he wants, his Father has lost his way.
Uncle Nò is truly an adult, his Father is lost!
Aleksinò is truly an adult,
His father is lost!

-00090-

Hey Alouba, Alouba we are tied up.
We are tied up, we are tied up!
Granny Alouba my dear, but we are tied up today!
Hey Alouba, Alouba we are tied up!
Oh Alouba, Alouba we are tied up!
We are tied up, we are tied up! Alouba we are tied up today!
Hey Alouba, Alouba we are tied up!
We are tied up, we are tied up, Alouba we are tied up today!
Hey Alouba, Alouba we are tied up!

-00091-

Hey Alouman, Alouman, Alouman, Aloumandja!
Aloumandja, Alouman, Alouman, Aloumandja!
Aloumandja, Aloumandja, I am asking Gede, what are you?
Alouman, Alouman, Alouman, Aloumandja e!
Aloumandja, Alouman, Alouman, Aloumandja!
Aloumandja, Aloumandja, I am asking Gede, what are you?
Gede is fancy, Loumandja, Gede is brave, Loumandja!
Gede is flashy Loumandja, hey Alouman Alouman Aloumandja!
I am asking Gede, what are you?

-00092-

Hey Aloumandje oh Ogou, **O'Zany** hey Obatala!
Hey Aloumandja oh Ogou, **O'Zany** hey Fawo!
O'Zany Bakoule asks for a flag.
O'Zany Bakoule asks for a flag Alada.
Oh we are already tied up!

-00093-

Alovi Gede Nibo is going to check them out!
Alovi Brave Gede, go check them out!
With fifty cents of Jefra, we'll see their ability!

-00094-

Amen, amen,
Amen, amen Pougwamen!
Amen, amen, amen, amen, Pougwamen!
I'm going to Totolo, I'm going to search for Bwamen roots.
Oh hey why, oh why am I doing that?
It's for the day when I fall!

-00095-

My my, oh Deblayi.
There is no place I want that I can't enter.
I'm Makanda, I'm Bizango, I'm Chanpwèl¹⁶, I'm Sinigal!
I'm Kaplawou, I'm Kanga, I'm the **Protector**, in two hours time I'm creole!
Yes since three Our Fathers, three Ave Marias, I'm Dokiman.
There isn't a place, I'm Makanda, I don't enter, oh **Angels**¹⁷.
I say, oh Deblayi, **there is no place I want that I can't enter.**
I don't need Djab to enter.
I need a bridle so I can restrain them.
The day I restrain these people, they'll really fly above me.
Oh ago! The woman sings seven Creole languages.
Like three Our Fathers, three Ave Maria; it's Dokiman, the country is overseas.
Overseas sing and pray to Makanda, oh **Angels!**
Oh my, Deblayi is central papa.
I need a Chanpwèl bridle so I can truly restrain them.

-00096-

Let's go see Miton Yayawe!
Hey I say hey, I paid this rara band!
Let's go see Miton, we are going Yawe, we ask for peace.
We ask for peace, Miton, we ask for peace.
We ask for peace, Miton, oh we ask for peace for this rara band.
We are going to the home of Miton Yayawe; did you not see us ask for peace?
We ask for peace, we ask for peace!
Let's go see, Miton, let's go see Miton.
Miton Vè we ask for peace, we ask for peace for this rara today,
We ask for peace! We ask for peace
For rara Miton, we ask for peace!
Let's go see Miton, the Adjalovi, did you not see us **asking** for peace here?
We are going to see, Miton, we'll Yawe, Hey Papa Sobo Kèsou!
We're going to see, Miton, we'll Yawe, did you not see us **asking** for peace?

-00097-

Let's walk Papa Legba, let's walk!
Let's walk Old Legba, let's walk!
We're going to see what's in the house!
We're going to see where Legba commands!

-00098-

Let's walk so we can see the magical power of the Djab Wozanfè!

¹⁶ *Bizango* and *Chanpwèl* are secret societies of Vodou that are dedicated to the defense of the religion and the community.

¹⁷ *Zany* means 'angels' and 'spirits,' especially in Northern Haitian Creole.

Oh **in** Ginen, that's where the Magic¹⁸ lives!
Master Wozañfè says **he was not born yesterday**, He's an ancient Elder.
Hey ancient, ancient since he was in Ginen ago, ago!
Master Wozañfè says **he was not born yesterday**, he's an ancient Elder.
Ancient, ancient since he was in Ginen.
Let's check to see, let's check to see the magical power of the Djab Wozañfè!
In Ginen, that's where Magic lives!
Let's walk, let's check it out, let's seek, so we can see where Wozañfè is!
In Ginen, that's where Magic lives!
Let's search, let's seek, so we can see where Wozañfè is.
In Ginen, that's where Magic lives!

-00099-

Anayitè, Anayitè Saint James is blue, new initiates¹⁹!
Anayitè, Anayitè Saint James is blue, new initiates!
Danbala Wèdo, Ayida Wèdo,
Oh Saint James is blue, oh new initiates,
in front of my Vodou sanctuary!

-00100-

Hey under, I'm going under, my home is Great Path!
Hey under, I'm going under, my home is at the gate!
And I don't leave children to watch my house, it's Great Path!
What a pity, hey under, I'm going under, my home is at the gate!

-00101-

Oh under the gerat rock!
Oh it's me Gede Nibo who's under Great Rock²⁰!
Don't you see us navigating?
Oh under Great Rock,
Oh it's me Gede Nibo who's under Great Rock!
Don't you see us navigating?
Oh those who ask for me, I'm under Great Rock!
Oh those who ask for me, I'm under Great Rock!
It's me Gede Nibo who's under Great Rock, don't you see me navigating?

-00102-

Under Kosi Bwa Bwa, Koundjaleke Sala Mangousa, I'm going!
Under Kosi Bwa Bwa, Koundjaleke Sala Mangousa, I'm going!
I say hey—I say hey, oh we have to remain calm

¹⁸ We translate *Pwen* as 'Magic.'

¹⁹ The term *hounyò* refers to 'new initiates.'

²⁰ *Gwo Wòch* 'Great Rock' is the name of a spirit.

To make the effort work!

-00103-

Down home, look what you did to me needlessly.
In front of me, look what you did to me.
I say Criminal, look what you did to to me needlessly.

-00104-

Oh under the Spring, hey it's me Gede Nibo
who's under Great Rock,
We're navigating!
Oh it's me, the Spring—oh it's me Gede Nibo
who's underneath Great Rock,
I'm navigating!
Who asks for me? You'll find me underneath Great Rock.
Who asks for me? Oh underneath Great Rock!
Oh It's me Gede Nibo, I'm underneath Great Rock.
I'm navigating!
And I live underneath the Vodou rock²¹.
I live underneath the rock with cockroaches!
Oh it's me Gede Nibo underneath the **Spring**.
Don't you see you're navigating?

-00105-

Oh anba loye, it's me Ogou.
Oh anba loye, it's me Ogou.
Anba loye, anba loye.
Oh Dahomey agrees, it's me Ogou.

-00106-

Underneath Maza what a pity, Sizo is underneath **Maza**.
Before you take a woman verify her vagina!
Underneath Maza what a pity, Sizo is underneath **Maza**.
Before you take a woman verify her clitoris!
Underneath Maza what a pity, Sizo is underneath **Maza**.
Before you take a woman verify her vagina!
Grinding is not grinding, I'm going to trim you **skinny girl**.
I went to Leoganne, I'm going to give your vagina for plantains.
It's not for plantains; it's for the plantain stalk!
An ass is not an ass, I'm going to trim you **skinny girl**.
I arrived at the La Plaine du Nord to have sex with you for plantains!

²¹ *Wòchapyè* literally means 'Rock of stones.'

But, it's not for the plantains. But, **it's** for the plantain stalk.

-00107-

Under the Vodou shelter I would say a word,
but the people hate me!
Under the Vodou shelter I would say a word, but the people hate me!
They would really kill me, oh cry out, cry out!

-00108-

Under, under, under we're tired!
Under, under, under, we're tired, under we're tired here!
Those who ask for my leaves, under, we are tired!
Under, under, under we're tired, hey what a pity!
Under, under, under we're tired, under we're tired here!
Those who ask for me, under we are tired!
Under we're tired, those who ask for my leaves, under we are tired!

-00109-

Oh Anbajouk, my Magic.
Oh when they'll need Towojouk,
they'll call Anbajouk, the Magic.
Oh Anbajouk the magic.
Oh when they'll need Towojouk,
they'll call Anbajouk, the Magic.
We are not little pigs for them to check us.
We are not little calabash bowls for them to check us here.
Oh Anbajouk, the Magic.
Oh when they'll need Towojouk,
they'll call Anbajouk, the Magic.

-00110-

Hey yeah embark!
Hey yeah embark!
Hey yeah embark!
My Kongo Zandò, hey yeah embark!

-00111-

Andezo when you arrive, you'll say what you saw!
Andezo when you arrive, you'll say what you saw!
But the day you leave, you'll say what you saw in this country,
Oh Djab push them away!
Andezo, when you leave, you'll say what you saw!
What a pity Simbi Andezo's protection is too strong!
Andezo when you leave, you'll say what you saw!

When you leave, you'll say what you saw in this country, sinners are angry!
Sinners are angry, Balmannan, well the sinners are angry!
Sinners are angry, Andezo, sinners are angry!
But as soon as you leave, you'll say what you saw!
But as soon as you leave, you'll say what you saw in this country,
the people are angry are angry!

-00112-

The Magic Andezo!
The Magic Andezo!
Papa Simbi, my Father has worked enough.
The Magic Andezo— the Magic Andezo!
Papa Simbi, my Father has worked enough.

-00113-

Andezo, my big dog
but the guys said they'll check out the Charm, it's not true.
If they check out the Charm, where is the magic?
Andezo is to check the Charm, where is the magic?
Simbi Andezo, my big Charm
Well the guys said they'll check out the Magic—
it's not true, God.

-00114-

Andezo, we're sweeping and watering.
Andezo, we're sweeping and watering.
Andezo, sweeping and watering.
Kengennen guys, black guys are not God.
Black guys are not God.
They're touching the Charm, they're ruining it.
They're touching our Charm, they're ruining it.
They think they'll ruin the Charm,
Kengennen guys, black guys are not God.

-00115-

Angode, Angode,
Be careful not to step on little Mawa.
Angode Angode, be careful
not to step on little Mawa.
Angode, Angode, Chango's horse is already saddled!
The Chango horse is already saddled
Angode, Angode, Chango's horse is already saddled!

-00116-

Uh huh, uh huh, this is not how I was!
Uh huh, uh huh, this is not how I was!
It is Bazou who brings Kwenda, oh yeah!
It is Bazou who brings Kwenda, oh yeah!
This is not how I was!

-00117-

Oh Anjèl, lend me your umbrella!
Oh Anjèl, lend me your black necklace!
Oh Anjèl, lend me your metal ason!
Oh Anjèl, with this umbrella, I'm going to ward off the sun!
Oh Anjèl, lend me your umbrella, so I can ward off the sun!

-00118-

I am a cart pusher again!
Cows die in my hands.
I am a cart pusher again, cows die in my hands.
I am a cart pusher again, cows die in my hands.
You are a cart pusher again, cows die in my hands.
Great Path went up, and you're going to visit them!
Cart Pusher went up, and you're suffering!
The travellers passed by, they laughed at me.

-00119-

I am poor again.
Oh Ti Chal²², I am poor again.
Ti Chal, I am poor again.
Oh Ti Chal, I'm poor again.
Ti Chal died and left!
Ti Chal died and left here!
The blue pants that are digging the hole,
the cashmere pants are going to drive him away!

-00120-

Hey again,
I make them do this to me.
Again, I make them do this to me.
New Moon, bad weather obstructs me.
New Moon, zombies obstruct me.
Hey again it's me who makes them do this to me!

²² *Ti Chal* means *Little Charles*

-00121-

Again Yèvi Yagaza,
Gede is checking around!
Cock-a-doodle-doo, today is my day.
Again Yèvi Yagaza, Gede is checking around!
Cock-a-doodle-doo, today is my day.

-00122-

Oh call Nikò again hey Lèlè!
Again, Kwala Nikò o Lèlè e.
Alkali Dakò o Lèlè e. [Alkali agrees...]
Nikò, ankò gbo Lèlè e
Nikò Kwala nikò gbo Lèlè e.

-00123-

Anmin Kongo, oh Anmin, oh e ay Anmin!
Anmin o, Anmin o, ay Anmin o!
Anmin Kongo Anmin o, eya Anmin o!

-00124-

Oh Anminan, he's in the Pond, Bilolo²³!
Oh Gwo Wòch, he's in the pond.
Oh in the pond there's gossip.
In the water Basin,
Well, they sent looking for me.
Oh please in the domain, oh in the Pond!
In the Pond, Gwo Wòch Makaya,
Ayibobo, Lwa!

-00125-

Anminan, Anmino
My heart is burning, I'm going to Ginen!
Oh Anmin, oh Anmin,
My heart is burning, I'm going to Ginen!
Oh Anmin, oh Granny,
my heart is burning, I'm going to Ginen!

-00126-

Oh mercy Andre,
Oh mercy Andre, oh don't you hear O'Zany—
Don't you hear the stick is in your butt, oh we're pleading!

²³ *Bilolo* is a praise exclamation in the *Petwo* rite.

Oh mercy Andre, oh mercy Andre, oh don't you hear O'Zany!
Don't you hear the stick is in your butt, oh we're pleading!

-00127-

Oh mercy, I'm calling, I'm calling!
The people are very small, they want to bathe in the blood of the big Protector²⁴.
Hey the people are very small, they came to bathe in the blood.
Hey they're very small, they came to bathe in the blood,
Hey in the blood, in the blood!
The people are very small, they want to bathe in the blood of the big Protector.
Hey the people are very small, they want to bathe in the blood of the Grand Ra.
They're very small, they want us to bathe in the blood of my Baka²⁵.
I'm not talking, I'm not calling!
They're very small, they want to bathe in the blood of my Baka.
Hey they're very small, they came to bathe in blood, mercy I won't speak!
Hey they're very small, they want to bathe in the blood
Hey in blood, hey in blood!
The people are very small, they want to bathe in the blood of the big protector.
Oh my, the people are very small, they want to bathe in the blood of the Grand Ra.

-00128-

Oh help, it's not Three Pond's fault,
Oh help, it's not the devil's fault, oh help!
Oh help, oh help, oh help, oh help, oh help, oh help, oh help!
Bakoulou Legba, it's not Three Pond's fault,
Oh help it's not the Djab's fault, oh help!
Look we're counting leaves, we're counting two, we're counting three!
Wooo, woooo, o woo, they'll do what they want!

-00129-

Oh help, I'm asking for help.
Oh help, I'm asking for help.
I went to the North Plain, drums were beating Dereyal²⁶
I'm asking for help.

-00130-

Help, oh help, help, oh help
help, oh help, oh my oh my!
Hmmm, let them talk, oh the Charm has entered!
Hey, we have a powerful Charm that comes from the shore!

²⁴ *Gad* or "Protector" is a protective spirit.

²⁵ *Baka* is a type of malicious spirit often blamed for making someone ill.

²⁶ *Dereyal* is the name of a famous Vodou Lakou (Yard).

Well, it entered the rara, oh it's carousing!
Help, oh help, help, oh help
help, oh help, oh my oh my!
Help, help, oh help,
let them talk, oh the Charm has entered!

-00131-

Antilya Dosou Marasa,
Give me life, my Oungan!
Antilya Dosou Marasa,
Give me life, my Oungan!
Antilya Dosou Marasa,
Truly give me life Oungan!

-00132-

Oh Antoine, I'm going to tell Fawo about these people!
Oh Antoine, I'm going to tell Fawo about these people!
I call Antoine, I can't find Antoine!
I call Antoine, I can't find Antoine!
I'm going to tell Fawo about these people!

-00133-

Antoine, drummer of my home, oh language²⁷!
Antoine, drummer of my home, oh language!
I call Antoine, drummer of my home, oh language!

-00134-

Antoine, my drummer!
Antoine, my drummer!
Antoine, my drummer!
Call the mother drum.
Antoine my drummer,
The sun has risen!

-00135-

Before they kill me,
they have to judge me seven times!
Before they kill my country, they have to judge us seven times!
Before they kill Haiti, we'll ask God what we did to them.
Yes seventy-seven times, yes, seven times Mannan.
Before you kill Haiti, we'll ask God what we did to them

²⁷ *Langaj* refers to "ritual language" with fragments of African languages.

-00136-

Before they kill me, they call me Djawoulo!
Before they kill me, they call me Djawoulo!
Man, don't you see, I'm Djawoulo
Don't kill me yet, don't you see I'm the protection?

-00137-

Anwezo, **Anwezo, nasiso!**
Anwezo, Anwezo, nasiso!
Dogwe Djò²⁸, Aris is dead and gone!
Masiyon took the ason,
Don't you see he walks Anwezo?

-00138-

Nothing has changed,
Yes, Makaya is in the middle of them!
Nothing has changed,
Yes, Makaya is in the middle of them!
If you eat the meat, you have to be able to break the bone.
As long as you eat the meat, you have to break the bone.
If you break the bone, you can **be** harmed!
Little boy be careful not to break the bone, you'll be harmed!

-00139-

Oh yeah, oh yeah, hey **Agasou wèlo!**
Oh yeah, oh yeah, hey Agasou wèlo!
Agasou wèlo, Dovè, Dovè hey Agasou wèlo!
Oh yeah, oh yeah, hey Agasou wèlo!
Oh yeah, oh yeah, Agasou wèlo!
Agasou wèlo, Dovè, Dovè
hey Agasou wèlo!

-00140-

Oh yeah, I've arrived, I've arrived, I've arrived!
Oh yeah, I've arrived, I've arrived, I've arrived!
Oh yeah, I've arrived, I've arrived, I've arrived!

-00141-

Anye o (k)pò Tèsi mouwa

²⁸ The *dogwe* is a ritual in Vodou ceremonies in which participants touch the ground as instructed by the *ason*-holder, Oungan or Manbo.

Badè Imamou do Sanyan Anye o.
Anye o, (k)pò Tèsi mouwa
Badè Imamou do Sanyan Anye o.
Anye o (k)pò Tèsi mouwa
Anye o (k)po Tèsi mouwa
Badè Imamou do Sanyan Anye o.

-00142-

Oh yeah, the celebration to salute this flag, we have arrived!
Oh yeah, the celebration to salute the flag of Danbala Wèdo, we have arrived.
Oh yeah, the celebration to salute this flag, we have arrived.
Oh yeah, the celebration to salute the flag of Danbala Wèdo, we have arrived.
Oh yeah, the celebration to salute this flag, oh we have arrived!

-00143-

Oh yeah, I say hey, hey Aloumandja!
Oh hey Aloumandja, the countrry is not mine!
The country is not mine, Jean Paul Nago, the country is not mine!
The country is not mine, **Lisa Legba**, we'll leave the country for them!
Oh yeah, oh I say hey, hey, hey Aloumandja!
Oh hey Aloumandja, the **country** is not mine!

-00144

Oh yeah, I'm asking for help.
Oh yeah, I'm asking for help.
I was at Laplèndinò,
drums were beating Dereyal.
I'm asking for help.

-00145-

Oh yeah, **oh hey Agwe Woyo is with swallow!**
Oh yeah, oh hey Agwe Woyo is with swallow!
While they want to see me, it's me Agwetawoyo,
I stay in the ocean, I drink water on the island.

-00146-

Oh yeah, oh Andre, oh yeah,
Oh Andre don't you hear, oh O'Zany?
Don't you hear, the stick is in your butt, oh he's pleading!

-00147-

Oh yeah, oh yeah,
Oh yeah, oh yeah, oh yeah, oh yeah!
I will not die in this condition.

Ibo Lele, **Ibo Swamen!**

-00148-

Oh yeah, oh yeah, oh yeah, oh hey the police!
The police arrested me, judged me, did not release me!
Oh yeah, oh yeah, oh yeah, oh hey the police!
The police arrested me, judged me, did not release me!

-00149-

Oh yeah, oh yeah, the **La Senjan** arrived!
Oh yeah, oh yeah the La Senjan arrived!

-00150-

Oh yeah, oh yeah, oh Ogou.
Master O'Zany **Akasan wonsiyon.**
Oh yeah, oh yeah, oh Ogou.
Master O'Zany Akasan wonsiyon.

-00151-

Oh yeah, rum vaporization, the drum calls!
Oh yeah, rum vaporization, the drum calls!
Oh yeah, rum vaporization, the drum calls!

-00152-

Oh yeah, the **Great Path** obstructs me.
Obstruct, oh obstructs me, Great Path!
Oh the Great Path is long!
Oh the Great Path is long!
Crossroad I ask for access for the Djab!

-00153-

Oh yeah, Ounsi Laba,
Oh Laba give me my drummers!
Ounsi like this, like this, Ounsi Laba.
Oh Laba give me my drummers!
Ounsi Laba, Laba give me my drummers!
Ounsi Laba, Laba
Ounsi like this, like this—oh give me my drummers!

-00154-

Oh yeah, hey Imamou,
Where are the Nago men, Imamou Lade!
Oh yeah, hey Imamou, oh yeah hey Imamou!
Where are the Nago men, Imamou Lade?

-00155-

Oh yeah, oh hey Red Eyes!
Oh yeah, oh hey Red Eyes!
Oh yeah, oh hey Red Eyes, sacrifice damn it!
Oh damn it, God damn it!
Oh yeah, oh hey Red Eyes! Oh yeah, oh hey Red Eyes!
Oh yeah, oh hey Red Eyes, sacrifice damn it!
Oh dammit, God Dammit!

-00156-

Oh yeah, oh Lèmisan,
Oh yeah, oh Lemiso!
Oh yeah, oh Lemiso!
The Nago pathway is closed,
Oh Lèmiso Batala,
Oh yeah, oh Lèmisan, oh yeah, oh Lemiso!
Oh yeah, oh Lemiso, the Nago pathway is closed,
Oh Lemiso Batala!

-00157-

Oh yeah, hey Manbo Great Interior!
Oh yeah, hey Manbo Great Interior!
Oh yeah, hey Manbo Great Interior!
Let me be **nasty**, and I'll leave!
Let me be nasty, and I'll leave!
Let me be nasty, and I'll leave!

-00158-

Oh yeah, I haven't entered yet.
Oh Oungan what they see, they can't do it!
Oh yeah, they can't do it, Boumba of the Great Path.
They can't do it, Master Kafou Boumba
They can't do it Boumba Cemetary, they can't do it!
I'll call out, I haven't entered yet.
Oh that Oungan they see, hey they can't do it!
They can't do it, Kita Savann, they can't do it.
Kita Manbre, they can't do it!
Kita Kay, they can't do it.
They can't do it, Simbi Andezo.
They can't do it, Simbi Yanpaka, they can't do it.
Master Gran Bwa Ile, they can't do it!
I say hey, we haven't entered.
Oh Oungan what they see, they can't do it!

They can't do it, Èzili Petwo, they can't do it!
They can't do it, Djab on Djab, they can't do it!
They can't do it, Criminal Boumba, they can't do it, the Djab!
Oh yeah we haven't entered yet, oh that Oungan they see, they can't do it!

-00159-

Oh yeah, I'm going under,
Oh yeah I'm going under, what I find **I'll** carry!
Oh yeah, I'm going under!
Oh yeah I'm going under, what I find **I'll** carry!

-00160-

Oh yeah, Ogou O'Batala,
Oh Balizay, which Lwa are you?
Oh yeah, Master Ogou O'Batala.
Oh yeah, Ogou O'Batala, oh Balizay, which Lwa are you?
Oh yeah, Master Ogou Obatala.

-00161-

Oh yeah, I am sick, I'm sick!
I am sick, oh I'm sick.
I hear jealousy is killing me!
Oh help, I am sick, I'm sick!
Oh help, I am sick, oh I'm sick!
I am sick, oh I'm sick, you can tell jealousy is killing me!

-00162-

Oh yeah, it's true
Lenmba, we are already ahead, so what!
Oh yeah, it's true—oh yeah it's true!
Lenmba, we are already ahead, so what!

-00163-

Oh yeah, oh Silverin
Danbala Wèdo, we've seen enough!
Oh yeah, oh Silverin!
Danbala Wèdo we've seen enough!
We've seen enough Silverin, we've seen enough!
We've seen enough Silverin, oh we've seen enough!
I will cry oh Silverin, we've seen enough!

-00164-

This nothing, this nothing Imako
Oh hey **Nago cross**, we are all **Flèhounde!**

This nothing, this nothing Imako, this nothing, this nothing Imako!
The child they want to kill, **is called Flèhounde**
Kosongo, Kosongo, Abonotcho, Abonotcho
Krista, Nota, Benita, Wanta, Ante, Obilante, Antete!

-00165-

Hey Apo Lisagbadjou, **Uproot**, we're calling the Lwa.
Hey Apo Lisa Ganman, Uproot, we're calling the Lwa.
Uproot, we're call the Lwa.
Uproot, we're call the Lwa.
Apo Lisa gweliye!

-00166-

I am calling you, **Selina Comes after God!**
Mother I am calling you so you can come give me life!
Ayibobo! **Apredje** Selina, Andre is calling you.
Mother, Andre is calling you so can come give him life!
There is no mother to help him carry!
There is no father to help him carry!
He has a single straw hat.
It flew into the ravine!

-00167-

Stop, bolt, stump, one way or another!
Stop, bolt, stump, one way or another!

-00168-

Asantayi wèlo, oh I'm crying my mother!
Asantayi wèlo, oh I'm crying my father!
Asantayi wèlo, oh yeah Santayi wèlo!
Oh I'm crying my mother!

-00169-

Oh enough talking, tell them I am here.
Don't you see me, I am in the middle of them!
On the narrow path, that's where they caught the sly horse!
Oh help! On the narrow path,
that's where they caught the sly horse, enough talking! Enough talking, tell them I am here.
Don't you see I'm in the middle of them!

-00170-

Hey Asogwe, we are here!

Badè Wensensou, Asogwe²⁹ we are Lade!
We are assuring our Oungan.
We are assuring our flag.
We are assuring my Master of Ceremonies!
Hey Asogwe we are here, Badè Wensensou,
Asogwe we are Lade!

-00171-

The ason that's in the hand of the manbo, they say it is **powerless**.
Look it can't be powerless, the Lwa I serve are too powerful.
The disparaging, the slanderous, oh they work together!
The disparaging, the slanderous, oh they work together!
Well, good people sit and watch them.
The ason that's in the hand of the manbo, they say it is ruined.
Look it can't be powerless, the Lwa I serve are too powerful.
The disparaging, the slanderous, oh they work together!
The disparaging, the slanderous, oh they work together!
Well, good people sit and watch them.

-00172-

Papa Ati Sole, oh I'm going. Kadja Ati Sole I'm going.
As soon as you see me look at the sky, I look at the ground.
As soon as you see me look at the sky, I look at the ground.
Ati Sole, the Great Path, I'm going!

-00173-

Ati Yanyan us two
Ati Yanyan us two, Agosou papa Legba.
Don't you see Legba Ti Yanyan

-00174-

Atibon Legba, open the gate for the Lwa!
We're entering, open the gate for my Lwa.
I say Atibon Legba open the gate for the Lwa!
We'll open the gate for the Lwa.
Atibon Legba open the gate for the Lwa!
We're here, open the gate for my Lwa.
I say Atibon Legba open the gate for the Lwa!
We'll open the gate for the Lwa.

²⁹ The term *Asogwe* refers to Oungan and Manbo, that is Vodou priests who have the right and privilege to officiate ceremonies with the *Ason* (sacred rattle).

-00175-

Atibon Legba wonsiyon³⁰
Oh Kandjole hey Legba.
Atibon Legba wonsiyon
Oh Kandjole hey Legba.
Edandan minawon, the ounsi.

-00176-

Atibon legba, they put me here
so I can watch the children!
Papa Alegba, they put me here
So we can watch the children!
They put me here so I can
watch the children here!

-00177-

Atibon Samadi my manyanvalou,
look at the misery on my back.
Atibon Samadi my manyanvalou, look at the misery on my back.
Atibon Samadi I'm going to Dèniye.
Atibon Samadi I'm going to Dèniye.
The misery on my back,
Don't you see I'm **going med ase!**

-00178-

Atisou is a King, here is my oungan!
Atisou is a King, look at my father!
Hey papa Loko Anzanblo Gidi—
Hey Anzangon Loko Anzanblo Gidi!
Where are my oungan, go greet them!

-00179-

Hey Aviya, viya, Aviya Dawonmen, ago!
Aviya, viya, Aviya Dawonmen!
Aviyada don't you see it's Gede Nibo?
Aviyada don't you see Gede Nibo, I ask where is my Yahwè?
Where is your Yahwè Gede Nibo, where is your Yahwè?
Hey Aviya, viya, Aviya Dawonmen, ago!
Aviya, viya, Aviya Dawonmen,
Aviyada Sobo Gede Nibo.

³⁰ *Wonsiyon* is an expression uttered between songs at Vodou ceremonies and refers to those initiated into Vodou, the *onsi*.

Badè Gede Nibo, I am asking where is our Yahwè?
Where is our Yahwè Dahomey, where is our Yahwè?
Where is our Yahwè, we are going to Ginen!
Hey Aviya, viya, Aviya Dawonmen, ago!
Aviya, viya, Aviya Dawomen, Aviyada Papa Gede Nibo!
Aviyada Papa Gede Nibo, we're asking where is our Yahwè?

-00180-

Awoyo do Kwalamenfò,
Awoyo do Kwalamenfò, ela,
Agwe Woyo, Ezilimenfò e!

-00181-

Awoyo, ewa ewa!
I offered the woman three dollars, she did not want it!
She went and had sex for two half-gourdes whoa, whoa, whoa.
The woman's clitoris was not washed.
Oh Awoyo, ewa, ewa, look at the misfortune that almost happened to me!
Oh Awoyo, ewa, ewa, look at the misfortune that almost happened to me!
Oh I offered the woman three dollars, she did not want it!
She went and had sex for two half-gourdes, whoa, whoa, whoa.
The woman's clitoris was not washed.

-00182-

Fearsome one, ewa ewa!
I offered the woman three dollars, she did not want it!
She went and had sex for two half-gourdes whoa, whoa, whoa.
The woman's clitoris was not washed.
Oh Fearsome one, ewa, ewa, look at the misfortune that almost happened to me!
Oh Fearsome one, ewa, ewa, look at the misfortune that almost happened to me!
Oh I offered the woman three dollars, she did not want it!
She went and had sex for two half-gourdes, whoa, whoa, whoa.
The woman's clitoris was not washed.

-00183-

Fearsome one, oh they speak ill of us.
What will they do to me?
Fearsome one, oh they speak ill of us, what will they do to me?
Although I am poor again, oh they speak ill of us enough, oh what will they do to me!

-00184-

Oh yeah mother, yeah mother!
Oh yeah mother, yeah mother!
Oh yeah mother, you never see me, hear!

Oh yeah mother, my boat sunk!

-00185-

Yeah mother, yeah mother!

The drum calls, my days will be lengthened, oh yeah mother!

Yeah mother, yeah mother!

The drum calls my days, will be lengthened, oh yeah mother!

-00186-

Hey Ayanman, yanman—

Oh hey Ayanman hey yanman!

Oh we'll be certain we'll gain Lasous, oh kòwaniye!

We will win Peter Danbala, yes we will win the Golden Serpent, we will win!

We will gain the Diamond Snake, we will gain the Lakansyèl³¹.

We will gain Ayanman, oh hey Ayanman hey!

Oh we'll be certain we'll

gain Lasous, kòwaniye!

-00187-

Ayida Wèdo it's me again.

While it's me, oh what I see here, I'm speechless!

Ayida Wèdo it's me again.

While it's me, oh what I see here, I'm speechless!

They call me here, I say it's me, here I am!

Oh they call me over there, I say it's me!

Oh Danbala Wèdo my body aches, I am speechless!

You'll go to the water spring, you'll see my hat.

Where did I put it?

Go to the water spring,

You'll see my hat, where did I put it?

I drink **natural** water, I died in salt water!

Ayida Wèdo, while it's me,

Oh what I see here, I'm speechless!

Ayida Wèdo, while it's me,

Oh what I see here, I'm speechless!

They sent for me, I say it's me!

They sent for me, oh I say it's me!

Danbala Wèdo, my body hurts me, I am speechless!

Mistress Ayida, Mistress of Danbala, Master Danbala, Mistress Ayida,

Oh what I see here, I'm speechless!

³¹ *Lakansyèl* means 'rainbow' and probably refers to Danbala Wèdo's wife *Ayida Wèdo*, who is represented by a rainbow.

Mister and misses they lie together, lend me your hats. We are going to drink a little water. Oh while it's me Danbala Wèdo the talk that hurts me. I am speechless.

-00188-

My Ayida Wèdo, kelemanyan.

My Danbala Wèdo, kelemanyan!

There's a time when they'll remember us, kelemanyan!

There's a time when they'll remember the Koki Dore, kelemanyan!

There's a time when they'll remember Mister Beauvoir, oh kelemanyan!

-00189-

Ayida Wèdo, today I am here, tomorrow we are here.

Danbala Wèdo, Ayida Wèdo, the Seashell,

today I am here, oh tomorrow we will be here.

Where are you, Danbala Wèdo?

Ago, ago, I say Ayida Wèdo, today you're here, tomorrow you're here!

Ayida Wèdo, oh today you're, oh tomorrow you're here,

Oh where are you, Danbala Wèdo?

We walk Ago, Ago!

-00190-

Ayida, Ayida, Wawo, Savalou Mother Lawe!

Savalou **Manman** Lawe,

Savalou Papa Lawedji.

Ayida, Ayida, Wawo, Savalou Mother Lawe!

Savalou **Manman** Lawe, Savalou **Papa** Lawedji.

-00191-

Ayidò, Ayidò do Kwala nikon

Amimiwa, mimiwa Gasou kowa aniye.

Douba koulou koulou gwètò my miyanvalou.

Douba kili kili gwètò my miyanvalou

Asahonmen and my Badè nikon.

Asahonmen and my Badè nikon.

Blip, blip, hey gwètò, hey Bèdò call Ayidò!

Ayidò Lisa Legba Kili Vodou Yèsèsinde!

-00192-

Ayina, we are going to search for life!

Ayina, we are going to search for life!

Bring Ti Yann to me,

so I can feed him, so we can tie him to a post!

-00193-

Haitians³² are angry, Haitians are very angry.
People are angry, ladies and gentlemen,
Fish in water who see a little hole in the water
It enters it, it bathes in it.
The water turned into blood, Haitians are angry!
I say to all the families,
Do good, do wrong, Haitians are angry!

-00194-

Haiti says this, it's... I'll tell them.
Oh Loko Atisou, we're calling God, it's... I'll tell them.
Haiti who says that, it's... I'll tell them.
Papa Loko,
We'll call God, it's... I'll tell them.
Haiti that gives us backing³³,
Haiti that meets abroad!
Papa Loko we are calling God,
it's... I'll tell them!
Haiti that gives us backing, Haiti that gives us the army!
Papa Loko we're calling God, it's [...] I'll tell them.

-00195-

Oh Haiti, God is good.
Oh Haiti, God is good.
My country, oh what is this?
When you fall after a time you will rise.

-00196-

Hey Ayizan Danbala!
Ayizan Danbala Wèdo, well where are you?
Sobo brought me here.
Badè brought me here.
You'll enter in the Ounfò.
You'll see Sobo; you'll see Badè.
You'll ask who I am.
You'll enter in the Ounfò.
You'll see Sobo; you'll see Badè.
You'll ask who I am.
Those who ask for me here,

³² *Ayisyen* in this song may be synonymous with 'people' in general.

³³ We translate *donoudo* as 'backing.'

You'll tell them I am here.
My life is in the hands of God.

-00197-

Hey Ayizan Danbala Wèdo!
Ayizan Danbala Wèdo, where are you?
Hey Ayizan Danbala Wèdo!
Ayizan Danbala Wèdo, where are you?
Sobo brought me here.
Badè brought me here.
You'll enter in the Ounfò; you'll see Sobo, you'll see Badè.
You'll ask who ask which Lwa we are.
You'll enter in the Ounfò. You'll see Sobo; you'll see Badè.
You'll ask which Lwa we are. Those who ask for us,
you'll tell them we are here. Our life is in the hands of God.

-00198-

Ayizan de Imedevis,
Sobo's Vodou altar, Imedevis Yèhwe!
Ayizan we love life, don't you see we hate life?
Ayizan we love life, don't you see we hate life?
Hey Ayizan Gweto!
Imedevis Yehwe!

-00199-

Ayizan de let go³⁴,
Ayizan de let go now, Sobo's Vodou altar,
The day I fall, I will rise except in death!
Ayizan de let go now!
Ayizan de, **Ayizan (k)pò** the Saints **mouwa**³⁵!

-00200-

Ayizan de, Ayizan de,
Ayizan we are all tied up!
Ayizan de, Ayizan de, stupid men tied up his horse.
Smart men say they'll release it!
Ayizan we'll see this.
Ayizan we are all tied up!
Ayizan de, Ayizan de! Ayizan we are tied up!
Stupid men tied up his horse; smart men say they'll release it!

³⁴ We translate *lese koule* as 'let go.'

³⁵ **Ayizan (k)pò** Lesen **mouwa**

Ayizan we'll see this, Ayizan we are all tied up!

-00201-

Ayizan de, they say the Ounfò is full of money.
Ayizan de, they say the Ounfò is full of money.
They came to watch me so they can carry me away.
They came to watch me so they can carry me away.
Ayizan **lost her voice**³⁶ the Gede Ounfò is full of money.

-00202-

Ayizan Gwètò, oh yeah!
Ayizan I will not die poor.
Ayizan Gwètò, oh yeah!
Ayizan I will not die poor.
The cruel say **there are** no more Ginen.
The creole people³⁷ say **there are** no more Ginen.
The time will come for us to deal with them.

-00203-

Oh Ayizan is big,
Ayizan is big, oh big Lisa dole!
Oh Ayizan is big, Ayizan is big, oh big Lisa dole!
Ayizan I am the child of Sanba Yèhnou!
Ayizan is big, Ayizan I am the child of Sanba Yèhnou!
Ayizan is big, Ayizan is big, oh big Lisa dole!

-00204-

Ayizan ke e, greet Legba ke e, ke e!
Ayizan ke e, greet Legba ke e, ke e!
Ayizan ke e, greet Legba ke e, ke e!
Ayizan ke e, greet Legba ke e, ke e!

-00205-

Hey walk Ayizan, walk now Ayizan!
Ayizan de, Ayizan go for a walk!
Ayizan, Ayizan, walk Ayizan!
Ayizan de, Ayizan go for a walk!
Ayizan, Ayizan, walk Ayizan!
Hey walk Ayizan, walk now Ayizan!
Hey walk Ayizan, walk now Ayizan!

³⁶ We translate *dewaze* as 'lost her voice.' Note *dewaze* is unattested in Valdman (2007).

³⁷ Here the expression *Kriyòl yo* refers to the creole population born in Saint-Domingue as opposed to the *Bosal yo* which refers to those born in Africa who reside in Saint-Domingue.

Manbo Ayizan went for a walk, walk Ayizan!

-00206-

Hey Ayizan greet Legba.

Hey Ayizan greet Legba.

Don't you hear money breaks rocks, don't you see the country has changed?

-00207-

Ayizan it's them, it's not them!

I am going to saddle my horse

So I can tour the country.

When I return who will receive me?

Ayizan it's them, it's not them!

Ayizan it's them, it's not them!

I am going to saddle my horse

So I can tour the country.

When I return who will receive me?

-00208-

Ayizan Velekete Imamou Sègwèlo,

Call Ayizan do Yèhwe,

Rele Ayizan do Yèhwe!

Ayizan Velekete, Imamou Sègwèlo,

Call Ayizan do Yèhwe,

Ayizan Velekete, Imamou Sègwèlo

Call Ayizan do Yèhwe!

-00209-

Oh Ayizan, Ayizan Belekou!

Oh Ayizan, Ayizan Belekou!

We're sisters, we're sisters,

Oh Ayizan Belekou!

-00210-

Azaka mannou Mede, djavòdò this is how they are!

Azaka mannou Mede, djavòdò this is how they are!

Azaka Mannou Mede here, Azaka Mannou Mede here,

Djavòdò this is how they are!

-00211-

Azaka Mede says

money and friends, which does he prefer?

In truth, he prefers money in his pocket.

Azaka says money and friends, which does he prefer?

Strike him dead, he prefers money in his pocket.
Azaka Mede says money and friends, which does he prefer?
Truthfully, he prefers money in his pocket.
With the money, if he's sick,
he wants to take a room for fifteen dollars, he'll take it!
With his money, if he wants to lie in a private room, he will lie!
Strike him dead, he prefers money in his pocket.
Minister Zaka says money and friends, which does he prefer?
Truthfully, he prefers money in his pocket.

-00212-

Hey Azaka Mede danm it!
Oh you have the rod of Zaka,
and you let dogs bite you, oh yeah danm it!
He has the rod of Zaka.
He has the rod of Zaka Mede.
He has the rod of Zaka.
He has the rod of Zaka Mede.
Hey Azaka Mede, hey danm it!

-00213-

Oh Azaka Mede my Guy³⁸!
Oh Kouzen my Guy!
This year, I will finally eat, **you hear**, oh Azaka Mede my guy!
Oh Kouzen my Guy!
Oh Azaka Mede my Guy, this year, I will finally eat, **you hear**!
This year, I will finally eat, **you hear**!
Oh Azaka Mede my Guy!

-00214-

Azaka Mede, my life is in the hand of my Father God,
This is how we are.
Azaka Mede, the country has changed!
Azaka Mede, the country has changed here!
Azaka Mede my life is in the hands of the ceremonial song leaders³⁹!
This is how we are, Azaka Mede, this is how we are!
Azaka Mede, my life is in the hand of my Father God, this is how we are!

-00215-

Azaka Mede, o Yehvi Dawonmen

³⁸ We follow Beauvoir in capitalizing Guy (*Nèg*).

³⁹ The Haitian Creole term is *Houndjènikon*.

Azaka Mede, o Yehvi Dawonmen
Yehvi Dawonmen, Yehvi gwètò e
Yehvi Dawonmen Yehvi gwètò e
Azaka Mede, o Yehvi Dawonmen.

-00216-

Azaka Mede, Olicha Agbòdjò!
Hey yeah oh hey Azaka Mede!
He has the rod of Zaka so dogs don't bite him.
Oh yeah danm it!
Zaka Mede, Zaka danm it, Zaka Chango!
You have the rod of Zaka and you're letting dogs bite you.
Hey danm it, hey yeah Azaka Mede oh yeah, oh danm it!

-00217-

Azaka miyan miyan bo gweliye
Azaka miyan miyan bo we see this.
Azaka miyan miyan bo gweliye
Azaka Mede bo we see this.
Azaka Mede bo we see this.
Azaka Tone bo we see this.
Mijanvalou o gweliye.

-00218-

Azaka, we are the Lwa, hey ago!
Azaka, we'll call the Lwa!
Hmm ..., hmm ... , hmm ... , hmm.
Azaka, we adore the Lwa.
Ago, Adjanoude!

-00219-

Azakasi Azakala, Zaka Mede!
Azakasi, Azakala, Zaka Mede is here.
Zaka Bobo Ile, Zaka Bobo Ile!
Zaka, I lost my harvest.
I lost my squash; I lost a little bit of coconut.
I lost my coffee.
Hey Kouzen Zaka lost his harvest here!
Hey Azakasi, Azakala, Zaka Mede Ago!
Azakasi, Azakala, Zaka Mede here.
Zaka Bobo Ile, Zaka Bobo Ile!
Zaka, I lost my harvest.

-00220-

Azanblo Gidi e,
E Azanblo Gidi e, a miyanva!
A miyanva, a miyanvalou Mitcho Boloko miwa!
Hey Azanblo Gidi.
Ago, Ago my Lwa!
Azanblo Gidi e, a miyanva, a miyanva,
A miyanvalou Mitcho Boloko miwa, Boloko miwa, a miyanva.
Azanblo miwa e Azanblo miwa miyanva.
Wa Loko Gidi e a miyanva, e Boloko miwa!
E Azanblo Gidi e, ago e!
E Azanblo Gidi e, a miyanva,
A miyanva e Wa Loko ago, a miyanva e!

-00221-

Oh hey Badè is in civilian clothing!
Ladies we'll take heart, we'll Sustain⁴⁰ Lade.
Oh hey Badè is in civilian clothing!
Ladies we'll take heart, we'll Sustain Lade.
Oh yeah Sobo's altar.
Alanman Vodou oh yeah!
Badè is in civilian clothing, Badè **mouwa** Sustain Lade!

-00222-

Badè I am alone, Sobo I am alone!
Papa Sobo don't you see that I am drowning.
I am drowning, Papa Sobo, I am drowning.
I am drowning, Sobo Kesou, I am drowning.

-00223-

Hey Badè Silibo,
Ladies take heart, we'll Sustain Lade!
Oh hey Badè Wansivil⁴¹, ladies take heart, we'll Sustain Lade!
Sogbagi Sobo, oh yeah, Alanman Vodou.
Oh yeah, oh Badè Wansivil, Badè mouwa, Sustain Lade!

-00224-

Badè rolls, **wow**,
Oh yeah, roll! Badè rolls Badèsi, Badè mouwa.
Badè rolls all over his body, Badè rolls oh yeah.
Roll, Badè rolls.

⁴⁰ Note that Beauvoir capitalizes *Soutini Lade* throughout his text.

⁴¹ *Wansivil* is of course *ou an sivil*, 'you are in civilian clothing.'

Look at a beautiful woman who changes ideas!
Badè rolls, **wow**, oh yeah, oh roll, Badè rolls.
Badèsi, Badè mouwa, look how he walks all over his body!
Badè rolls, **wow**, oh yeah, oh roll, Badè roll.

-00225-

Badèsi do Agwe Woyo,
Yewogann o Miton Yèhwe!
Badèsi do Agwe Woyo,
Yewogann o Miton Yèhwe!
Badèsi do Agwe Woyo,
Yewogann o Miton Yèhwe!

-00226-

Badèsi Kwala Ounsi, do miwa e!
Badèsi Kwala Ounsi, do miwa!
Agwetawoyo Alanman Vodou,
Awan Nannan the Great Magic,
Oh Bo Lèlè, Tokan miwaze,
Badè miwaze Bagil o!
Badèsi Kwala Ounsi, do miwa e, Ago e!
Badèsi Kwala Ounsi, do miwa.
Alanman my Vodou⁴²!
Oh Lèlè, Badè miwaze, Sobo miwaze Bagil o!
Ewa mouwa, Badèsi mouwa,
Hey Amiwa Sobyèsou miwa,
Amiwa Gwètò mwen, miwa!
Ewa miwa, Sobyèsou miwa!

-00227-

Bakosi a, Dosou Marasa ee ... !
Bakosi a, Dosou Marasa e!
Manman, I'll call God!
Oh God, I'll call the Virgin!
Bakosi a, Dosou Marasa a, we're in trouble!

-00228-

Oh Bakoulou Baka I am not the only one—
oh Bakoulou Baka I am not the only one
who consumes the strength of the Djab.

⁴² Here we see the Fongbe expression for a spirit *Vodou* alive and well in Haitian Creole. The possessive pronoun *mwen* makes this reading clear. This meaning for *Vodou* is an archaism in Haitian Creole and is generally confined to *Vodou* songs.

Oh Bakoulou Baka I am not the only one—
oh Bakoulou Baka I am not the only one
who consumes the strength of the Djab.

-00229-

Bakoulou Baka sizo,
Oh Man, didn't you hear fire took over the city?
Bakoulou Baka sizo, hey oh language.
Bakoulou Baka sizo!
Oh man, didn't you hear fire took over the city?

-00230-

Oh Bakoulou Baka, your table of food is ready.
Hey Bakoulou Baka, your table of food is ready.
Bakoulou Baka, your table of food is **ready**.
Bakoulou Baka, your table of food is **ready**.
Oh I swore I would never eat at the home of another person!
Oh I swore I would never eat at the home of another person!
Your silveware is ready, Bakoulou, your silverware is ready!

-00231-

Oh Bakoulou Baka, the Charm is tied.
The Charm is tied, oh the Charm is tied!
Oh Bakoulou Baka, the Charm is really tied!

-00232-

Bakoulou Baka the Charm is mean,
Bakoulou Baka, yeah the Charm is mean!
Bakoulou Baka, Baka the Charm is mean!
Bakoulou Baka,
Bakoulou Baka the Charm is mean!
Bakoulou Baka, Baka the Charm is dangerous!
Bakoulou Baka, Bakoulou Baka the Charm is dangerous!
Bakoulou Baka, Baka the Charm is dangerous,
Bakoulou Baka.

-00233-

Hey Bakoulou, what will you eat?
Hey root woods in woods!
What will you eat Bakoulou?
Hey root woods in woods!

-00234-

Balance Miton at my house,

If I fall, I'll get up.
Balance Miton at my house, if I fall, I'll get up.
Balance Miton at my house, if I fall, I'll get up.
Balance Miton at my house.
Bazou Mennen Kwenda!
Balance Miton at my house,
If I fall, I'll get up.
Balance Miton at my house.

-00235-

Balaye, I called Big Mother.
Balaye, oh I called Big, hey what a pity!
Balaye, I called Big Mother.
I say Balaye, I called Big Mother.
Since I left Tomazo,
I haven't see her!

-00236-

Oh Balendjo Ogou!
Poisoned food
will not kill my horse.
Balendjo, oh Ogou!
Oh Balendjo Ogou!
Poisoned food will
not kill my horse.

-00237-

Balmannan Lenba it's not the fault of the Three Ponds⁴³!
Oh help, it's not the Djab's fault, oh help!
Whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa!
Balmannan Lenba it's not the fault of Three Ponds!
Oh help, it's not the Djab's fault, oh help!
Oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh they'll do what they want!
Oh it's magic, Balmannan, look it's the magic!
Oh it's magic, I'm looking for life.
Oh it's life, I'm looking for life.
Oh it's life, I'm looking for life so I can feed the children!

-00238-

Balmannan bad head, which Lwa are you?

⁴³ *Twa Letan* literally means *Three Ponds* but here is likely a reference to a Vodou spirit or a place where Vodou spirits reside.

I say hey, they tried to kill me.
Balmannan grave head, which Lwa are you?
I say hey, they sing of my death.
My Balmannan Banda⁴⁴,
my Balmannan Banda!
Balmannan Mayofreda, it's Fridi, it's Freda!
Balmannan Grave head, which Lwa are you?
Balmannan bad Ganga Kalounga, which Lwa are you?
Balmannan Grave head, what did I do to them?
Oh hey, I say they **tried to kill me!**
Balmannan the Grave head, what did I do to them?
Oh hey, I say they **tried to kill me!**
My Balmannan Banda, my Balmannan Banda.
Balmannan Mayofreda, it's Fridi it's Freda!

-00239-

Balmannan look what they did to me.
It's okay, it's okay, Balmannan, there's a time,
Lwa Banda, this will be resolved.

-00240-

Give me water, give me salt, give me oranges
To season the meat, I could eat it raw.
I don't have a mother; I don't have a father to season this meat for me,
I could eat it raw.

-00241-

Give me food, I'm leaving.
Oh Gede Alovi!
Give me food, I'm leaving.
Give me food, I'm leaving.
Oh Gede Alovi!
Give me food, I'm leaving.
Oh Alovi I am not from here.
Oh Alovi I am not from here.
Give me food, I'm leaving.

-00242-

Hey Banda, Banda went home.
Call Banda for me, Banda went to Lakaye.

⁴⁴ The term *Banda* in Balmannan Banda is likely a reference to the Banda rite, one that includes Bawon Samdi and the Gede.

Hey Banda, Banda went to Lakaye.
Call Banda for me,
Banda went home.

-00243

Oh Banda Ile Ile, oh Banda Ile Ile,
Oh Banda Ile Ile,
Banda Ile Ile, Sousou Pandjanmen!

-00244

Banda rolls, roll us **bandako**⁴⁵!
Hey ensure Banda so we can see him!
Banda rolls, roll us **bandako**!
Banda rolls, roll us **bandako**!
Bandako charm, we're touching the charm.
Banda rolls, roll us bandako!

-00245-

Give me my alcohol, Kongo Zandò.
Give me my alcohol, Kongo Zandò.
Truthfully Zandò,
Give me my alcohol.
Give me my alcohol, Kongo Zandò!

-00246-

Give me rope so I can tie them!
Give me rope so I can tie them!
The bull doesn't want to release me.
Give me rope so I can tie them!
Give me rope so I can tie them!
The bull doesn't want to release me.

-00247-

Give me a hard drink, I'm leaving!
Oh give me a hard drink, I'm leaving!
Associates, oh I am in trouble.
Oh give me a hard drink, I'm leaving!

-00248-

My band,
oh call my band.

⁴⁵ This unattested expression *bandako* is likely related to the term *Banda*.

I say Three Crossroads, oh Bull of the band!
The band, oh call my band.
I say Three Crossroads, oh bull of the band.
When I am in trouble, when I am in trouble.
I am going to search for leaves in woods
So I can **protect**⁴⁶ my home!

-00249-

The band is outside, my Society is outside!
I don't know the mother hen.
The band is outside, the Society is outside!
I don't know the mother hen.

-00250-

Barak, oh Barak
I don't like a woman who's too jealous!
Oh If I find a woman
who's jealous like Èzili Je Wouj,⁴⁷
Barak drove her away under the Kongo altar⁴⁸.
Barak, oh Barak
Oh I don't like a woman who's too jealous!
Oh if I find a woman who's jealous like Èzili Je Wouj,
Barak drove her away under the Kongo altar.

⁴⁶ We translate *salange* as 'protect.'

⁴⁷ *Je Wouj* means 'Red Eyed,' a reference to the fiery temperament of this Petwo manifestation of Èzili.

⁴⁸ We translate *Bila* as 'Kongo altar.'